

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND ROBIN YOUNG

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
By PHILIP WEBSTER AND IAN MURRAY IN BONN

that the inclusion of subjects in the treaty that he has succeeded in vanquishing political union. Major needs to be shown that the words bind Britain to agree to take over by the commonwealth.

Parliamentary Compromises found Lament hopeful,

these means in addition. Mr. [unclear] do not a future unity.

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page 9
page 23



the war-torn country. The resolution passed by the council requires a further authorisation by the council before any troops are actually deployed.

Council members decided "to take appropriate action without delay" to send the peacekeepers if the Security Council asks for them when the situation in the

which UN troops are sent to troublemakers are not placed along borders as the breakaway public has asked, or to protect Serbian inside Croatia as the government wants.

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Report
Letters

page 10

civilisation

**TYCOONS
IN TROUBLE**
And who's still
making money

In search of today's
Angry Young Men

A liberated date
with Naomi Wolf

A new Wexford



16 pages of top jobs in today's appointments section, circulated in Britain

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As the boy, said to be a "angelic" hair and an "angelic" acclimatised perhaps for time to a clean environment modern facilities, Graham the director of social services that his department was to be apart from his illegitimate being registered, no official appear to exist to indicate that years the boy lived a strange lonely life in the village of a near Weybridge.

Saved: an R

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He added: "The suggest the moth

SPCA official holds two kittens to a radically Gatehouse said: "My suggestion it is of the social ser. If anything, it is a possibility in the wider."

although if that is necessary, it is necessary."

The hidden life emerged after broken into the two-story terraced house at the time to investigate theft claims. He was found lying in a bed next to her, aged 31.

They were shocked by the filth

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Appeal court says cases were prejudiced by actions of detective heading murder enquiry

Two more freed in Blakelock case

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE two remaining members of the Tottenham three were released on bail last night pending the expected quashing of the life sentences imposed on them almost five years ago for the murder of PC Keith Blakelock during the Broadwater Farm riots.

Three appeal court judges agreed to the release of Engh Raghup, aged 24, and Mark Braithwaite, aged 23, after it accepted that the cases against them had been prejudiced by the actions of the police officer heading the murder inquiry who had apparently tampered with a statement made by the third defendant, Winston Silcott, aged 32. Silcott was cleared by the appeal court on Monday but remains in prison as he is serving a life sentence for

another murder. The release of Raghup and Braithwaite into the custody of their solicitors at the end of the third day of the appeal hearing was greeted with applause in court and tumultuous cheers on the street outside.

They were reunited with their family outside the doors to the court cells. Both men looked happy but slightly bewildered by the sudden turn of events as they hugged their relatives. When they appeared outside the building several black youths who had attempted to form a security screen to the waiting taxi were swarmed as the crowd surged forward.

Among those who greeted the two men were members of the Birmingham Six who were released after police

statements were found to be falsified.

The two men were escorted to their taxi by Jeremy Corbyn and Bernie Grant, the North London MPs who have campaigned for their release since their trial in 1987. Mr Grant said: "Justice has at last been seen to be applied to everyone, black and white. This is good news for all parts of the community."

The prosecution's position was made clear in an unexpected statement by Roy Amlot, QC, who conducted the original prosecution.

In a short statement at the close of Raghup's appeal by Michael Mansfield, QC, Mr Amlot said: "Mr Mansfield has asked the court to take into account the effects or likely effects of the apparent misbehaviour of Mr [Det Chief Supt Graham] Melvin on Raghup's case and the case as a whole."

"We must look at the broad picture, which is that Mr Melvin was the officer in charge of the case, he was the officer who had close control of the whole of the murder enquiry and he was the officer to whom the junior officers looked in respect of any significant decision."

"Mr Mansfield asks, would the Crown have gone on against either defendant knowing of the apparent misbehaviour of the senior officer in the case?"

"The answer is unequivocally that we would not have gone on against Raghup and Braithwaite or any of the other defendants having learned of the apparent dishonesty of the officer in the case."

John Hendy, QC, counsel for Braithwaite, said that besides tampering with the evidence, Mr Melvin had been responsible for a breach of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act by refusing to allow Braithwaite to see a solicitor for almost two days after his arrest.

Braithwaite had also not had proper attention paid to his complaints of claustrophobia, another breach of the Act, he suggested. Mr Hendy will continue his appeal today when medical evidence will be presented.



Happy but bewildered: Mark Braithwaite leaving the court after being freed on bail yesterday

Police chief waits for CPS decision

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE future of Det Chief Supt Graham Melvin, who headed the PC Blakelock murder enquiry and interviewed Winston Silcott, depends on a report sent to the Crown Prosecution Service by Essex police earlier this month.

Mr Melvin, aged 50, was suspended from duty in September and a decision on any prosecution is said to be some time away.

A detective much respected within Scotland Yard, he took over one of the most emotive murder cases and has been dogged by its repercussions. He came to the case as senior man in the Yard's serious crime branch with a string of commendations.

Based in north London with 60 officers, Mr Melvin was aware that the entire force was watching the progress of his investigations. Within ten days after murder, the news was spread to Sir Kenneth Newman, then commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

However, the controversy over events at Broadwater

Farm and the treatment of suspects, often juveniles, was not over with the end of the trial. A 13-year-old had been acquitted by the order of the judge after evidence of his treatment by the police.

Mr Melvin, accused of three offences at a discipline hearing over the juvenile, was found guilty of one. Sentenced to a reprimand he appealed to the home secretary and won last July. By that time the Essex inquiry, which led to the Court of Appeal this week, was under way.



Melvin: dogged by case's repercussions

US tells Libya to end terror

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BRITAIN and America yesterday demanded drastic action by Libya to atone for the Lockerbie bombing and to end its sponsorship of terrorism.

The two governments insisted that Colonel Gaddafi's regime compensate the families of the 270 Lockerbie victims, surrender the two Libyan agents charged with carrying out the bombing, accept responsibility for their actions, and co-operate with the continuing Anglo-American investigation.

The French government joined London and Washington in further demanding that Libya conduct no further terrorist acts, end all support for terrorist groups and prove its renunciation of terrorism "by concrete actions". France

recently charged six Libyan agents with responsibility for blowing up a French airliner over the Sahara in 1989, killing 171 people.

The joint statement issued by the White House said it expected Libya to comply promptly and in full with the demands, though privately officials say they see little chance of that. It did not spell out the consequences of non-compliance. The Bush administration expressly has not ruled out military retaliation, but the next step would be punitive international economic and diplomatic sanctions, including a possible embargo on Libyan oil sales.

Yesterday's statement had been delayed to get French participation, and Paris's support should make it easier to European-wide backing for such measures. Oil accounts for 90 per cent of Libya's export earnings, and most of it is sold to a handful of European countries.

American relatives of the Lockerbie victims said yesterday's demands were a necessary next step but saw no chance of Libya complying.

King puts more troops in Ulster

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

AN EXTRA battalion of troops is being deployed in Northern Ireland, Tom King, the defence secretary, announced yesterday. The temporary measure is part of the continuing review of security following increased violence in the province.

The deployment consists of 500 to 600 men of the 1st Battalion the Gloucestershire Regiment. Mr King made the announcement at Drumad Barracks in Armagh, about 15 miles north of where the body of an Ulster Defence Regiment soldier shot by the IRA was found dumped early in the morning.

The Glosters are expected to remain in the province for only a matter of weeks. The army said that several hundred UDR reservists called up just under two weeks ago would continue in full-time service for the time being.

The increased army presence follows an upsurge in sectarian violence, in one phase of which seven people were killed in 24 hours, and reflects fears that the IRA may be preparing a Christmas bombing campaign in

Northern Ireland. The arrival of the Glosters brings the total regular complement in the province to about 11,000, about the same level as after a similar temporary increase in September.

The latest victim of the IRA, a full-time soldier in the UDR, was found lying on a country road about a mile outside the village of Creggan, near the border in Co Armagh. It is thought he had been shot in the head.

The IRA claimed responsibility for the killing. It said that it had abducted two men in the village of Crossmaglen on Tuesday and had shot one of them after identifying him as a soldier. Last night security forces had cleared the area and army bomb disposal experts were checking for booby trap devices before recovering the body.

In Belfast yesterday, a man was in a satisfactory condition in hospital after being shot. Police said that he had been sitting with two other people in a car in the south of the city when a gunman opened fire from a passing car.

Operation costs can vary by up to 300%

By JILL SHEARMAN
SOCIAL SERVICES
CORRESPONDENT

COSTS of hospital operations vary as much as 300 per cent even after geographical differences and reaching overheads have been taken into account, says a report from health service finance directors published yesterday. The Healthcare Financial Management Association suggests that millions of pounds could be saved if hospitals moved towards the average cost of the services they provided.

Its document, which examines the costs of 38 different medical specialties in hospitals throughout the country, shows widespread variations in the cost of operations in the same part of the country in similar hospitals. A gynaecological operation in North-West Thames can vary from £180 to £591, while an orthopaedic operation in Yorkshire ranges between £321 and £924. The report claims that if all hospitals moved to the average cost of an orthopaedic operation there would be a potential saving of £42.7m. Similarly £43.3m could be saved if hospitals of similar type met the average cost of a paediatric operation.

Chris Grimes, secretary of the association, said that in some hospitals costs could be higher due to the severity of cases treated, or clinical practice. "We are not saying that the NHS can definitely save this money. But there are enormous variations which cannot be accounted for by case-mix differences alone. Managers should have to justify their costs."

High honours



The opera singer Dame Joan Sutherland (above) and Professor Francis Crick, the scientist who first cracked the genetic code, have been appointed by the Queen to the Order of Merit. They join a select band of 24 eminent men and women whose most recent appointments were Margaret Thatcher. In terms of pure achievement, it is the highest honour that the sovereign can bestow.

Robson payout

Bobby Robson, the former England football manager, won substantial libel damages in the High Court yesterday over a newspaper report criticising him for accepting a job with the Dutch club PSV Eindhoven in the run-up to the World Cup last year. News (UK) Ltd, publishers of Today, accepted that its accusations were "wholly wrong and unfair" and agreed to pay an undisclosed sum.

£1.1 m bible

A 15th-century bible fetched £1.1 million at Christie's in London yesterday, selling to the New York dealer H.P. Kraus. Described by the auctioneers as the most important early printed book to come up for auction since they sold the Gutenberg Bible in 1987, yesterday's example was printed with type cast directly from the matrices struck in the workshop of Johann Gutenberg.

BA defies rebuke on fares

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Airways last night attacked a European Commission ruling that 40 business class fares within Europe were too high. The airline said it had no intention of cutting the fares, many of which had already changed.

"The decision has no impact on British Airways' current fare levels," said BA. "The decision will not further competition and is an endorsement for inefficiency - discriminating against airlines with lower costs. This is the first time the EC have intervened on European fares and we do not believe they have assessed our Club Europe fares against the full costs of providing a business class service in Europe."

The commission was asked to intervene by the Civil Aviation Authority after British and European airlines app-

lied for two increases at the time of the Gulf war. The first increase was approved because of higher fuel costs but the second was rejected by the CAA as unjustified.

Under new rules governing air fares within Europe, however, both countries at either end of a route must object to the fare changes before they can be outlawed. Regulators in Greece, Spain, France, Italy and Scandinavia did not turn down the applications.

The CAA was so incensed that it asked the commission to investigate but had to wait almost a year for its decision, during which time many of the fares changed, with at least one going down.

Last night the commission finally responded with a complex and technically based decision which has so confused the CAA that it asked for time to study the implications before replying.

HOW AIR FARES HAVE MOVED

HEATHROW TO	OCT 1990	DEC 1990	APRIL 1991	CURRENT
NICE	£172	£181	£202	£202
ROME	£212	£224	£244	£244
COPENHAGEN	£174	£183	£211	£211
ATHENS	£280	£284	£324	£324
MADRID	£135	£144	£164	£164
BRUSSELS	£118	£121	£139	£139
LISBON	£136	£139	£161	£161

Prices paid for single Club Class fare

Fake wine for the Christmas toast

By DAVID YOUNG

THE toast is "a Merry Christmas", but the red wine in the glass could have been coloured with beetroot juice, according to trading standards officers who have monitored what is available to put in the stockings this year.

Liverpool standards officers yesterday unveiled a "top ten" list of cheap fakes at their own Christmas grove yesterday. The list included a practice golf kit which almost killed a four-year-old Liverpool boy.

Daniel Deakin picked up a golf ball attached to elastic anchored to the ground by a metal spike and as he walked off the spike flew out of the ground and pierced his chest, coming out under his arm.

Among the counterfeit items that have been seized in Liverpool was a range of fake wines, including a false Mouton Cadet. All the bot-

tles contained the same white "home-brewed" wine which is made to look red with beetroot colourant.

The fakers use empty bottles from restaurants which they refill, recork and resal.

The wine has been selling at half price in small off-licences in the North-West.

The officers fear that Gucci watches, Giorgio perfume, Fila sports shoes, Louis Vuitton luggage and Boss

hatchell jackets are among the fake designer labels poised to flood the Christmas market.

Many of the dangerous goods illegally carry the "CE" mark, which should mean that they meet European safety rules. The Liverpool officers have also seized more than £150,000 worth of fake tape recordings this year.

Chief officer Peter Mawdsley said: "There seem to be more fakes on the Christmas market this year than ever before."

The Association of London Authorities will today announce a campaign to end the trade in cheap and shoddy toys often offered on market stalls over Christmas.

The association says many children choke on such toys appearing on the market at Christmas. Toys should only be bought from reputable dealers, it says.



Man killed after mystery ad appears in newspaper

BY RAY CLANCY

POLICE yesterday appealed for help in tracing the killer of a man who was shot dead on his doorstep after an advertisement appeared in his local newspaper denying rumours that his marriage was in difficulties and that he was guilty of fraud and theft.

Detectives believe someone in the village of Northiam, near Hastings, East Sussex, must have seen the late-night caller who knocked on the door of Terry Daddow's house on Tuesday and shot him at point-blank range. Last night three men were being held by police in connection with the killing but were expected to be released.

The Daddows had lived in the village for a year. Jean Daddow, aged 52, was in bed when her husband answered

believed in us perhaps the rest could find themselves to criticize or work for their sick minds."

Detective Superintendent Brian Foster, who is leading the investigation, said he was anxious to trace Mr Daddow's former clients. "This was a savage and deliberate act," he said. "The advertisement indicates that the Daddows were concerned that people were gossiping about their affairs and wanted to put the record straight. Clearly we want to know what sort of gossip is referred to. It could provide a motive for what was a cold-blooded killing."

Police have not ruled out that the advertisement could have been placed by someone other than Mr Daddow. An incident room has been set up at Hastings and Mr Foster appealed for villagers who saw anything to contact the police.

Ray Rolles, the village postmaster, said Northiam was shocked by the killing. "Mr Daddow was a very pleasant and cheerful man, very likeable," he said.

Roger Daddow, the dead man's brother, said he was mystified by the shooting and the advertisement. "I can't put any interpretation on it at all. If Terry was experiencing some difficulties he didn't tell me about them," Mr Daddow, aged 43, a civil servant, said.

He said that his brother had retired from Lloyds Bank in Tottenham 18 months ago. He spent a lot of time caring for his garden and took on gardening for other people.

He had been advising clients on financial matters but he did not know how many.

"I would be very surprised if Terry was involved in any sort of money-lending business, but in this day and age you never know," he said.



Out of school: Peter Tatchell, centre, and gay and lesbian activists leaflet pupils outside Haverstock school, north London, during the lunch break

Gay campaigners take protest to school gates

BY MATTHEW D'ANCONA

GAY and lesbian activists distributed leaflets outside a secondary school in Camden, north London, yesterday as they launched a nationwide campaign to combat prejudice in schools.

Beneath the title "What should you do if a friend tells you they are gay or lesbian?" and pictures of gay couples, the leaflet urged young people to accept all forms of sexuality and respect homosexual

friends. It also listed famous gay and lesbian people from a 16th-century pope to the pop singer Jimmy Somerville.

Peter Tatchell, of the gay protest group Outrage, said: "We're responding to kids' own desire to find out more about lesbian and gay people. Our protest is not targeted against this particular school. Our number one priority is to draw public attention to victimisation in the playground."

Danny McLoughlin, aged 17,

from Hull, said he was helping to leaflet at Haverstock secondary school because of the difficulties he had experienced when he told his school and parents he was gay. "I came out at school when I was 16," he said. "I was very frightened and isolated. No one should have to feel like that."

Janet Wallace, the school's headteacher, said she was unhappy that Haverstock had been chosen for the lunch-hour protest. "It is inappropriate to approach

school students directly by leafletting like this." The 900 pupils were advised to stay in during the meal break.

Those who ventured out had mixed opinions about the leaflet. Alice Leves, aged 16, said she thought the demonstration was a good idea. "The school doesn't stand for sexism and racism," she said. "But they should talk about lesbian and gay sex in sex education classes." Vicki Ballington, also 16, said she disapproved of

the leafletting. "I've got gay friends," she said. "But I don't think it should be put to people like this."

The campaign has already provoked an angry response from some gay campaigners, who question Outrage's tactics, and MP Alex Carlile, the Liberal Democrat MP, said yesterday: "It is quite wrong for any group — however moral, however virtuous and however right — to leaflet school-children entering and leaving school."

Puzzling: the Wealden Advertiser advert

the door at 10.30pm. She heard a man's voice, followed by a shot. Mr Daddow, aged 52, an unemployed financial consultant who used to work for a bank in Tottenham, Kent, apparently put the advertisement in the *Wealden Advertiser* to end gossip about his family. He married his wife three years ago and they have four children by previous marriages.

The advertisement read: "Daddow, Terry, Jean. Because of malicious gossip would like it known they are happily married and together. All have been proved by fraud, theft or senility. Thanks to the few friends who

Carol Thatcher pays up

BY DOUGLAS BROOM

CAROL Thatcher, the journalist daughter of the former prime minister, paid her poll tax debt with a flourish yesterday, brandishing a cheque to reporters and camera crews before posting it off to her local council.

Miss Thatcher, whose mother introduced the community charge and publicly berated those who refused to pay, was ordered by magistrates in Hammersmith to pay her £247 poll tax in September. However, although she paid the tax within four days of the court order she failed to pay a £32.32 costs

order imposed by the court and the Labour-controlled council ordered bailiffs to collect the sum.

After her plight was reported yesterday Miss Thatcher emerged from her semi-detached home in Fulham to face the media. Holding up a cheque she declared: "One cheque for Hammersmith and Fulham council. I'm posting it first class. The papers said it was 32 quid, so here's 32 quid. It's a world record fuss for about 32 quid, don't you think?"

Back at the town hall Hammersmith and Fulham council's Labour leader, Iain Coleman, was attempting to play a straight political bat.

The authority could not provide services unless it received revenue to support them, he said. But then the temptation proved too great and he added: "After all, the poll tax was Margaret Thatcher's idea, so it does seem rather peculiar that her daughter has chosen not to pay it on time."

The Audit Commission said last night that in spite of cost orders against people who were taken to court for non-payment, local authorities were still losing money.

Beck, aged 49 and a former Royal Marine, was the officer in charge of three children's homes for 13 years until 1986. The homes were run by Leicestershire social services in Leicester and Market Harborough.

The woman, in evidence to Leicester crown court earlier in the proceedings, said that she faked symptoms and had her appendix unnecessarily removed to escape sex abuse at the home.

She said that Beck had repeatedly raped her and threatened to have her committed to a psychiatric unit if she did not comply.

Beck was also convicted yesterday of indecently assaulting Mark Linnett, now aged 30, and of bugging Michael Finney, now aged 29. He was cleared of causing Mr Finney actual bodily harm.

The four convictions, on the third day of the jury's deliberations, bring to eight the total number of convictions against Beck. The jury has still to return verdicts on a further 15 charges against him, including indecent assault, bugging, attempted bugging and actual bodily harm. He has denied all the charges.

The jury yesterday acquitted Peter Jaynes, aged 41, Beck's former deputy, of indecent assault against a girl. On Tuesday, Jaynes, of Chatham, Kent, who had faced three charges, was found guilty of indecently assaulting Mark Linnett and causing actual bodily harm to a girl. He had denied the charges.

The jury has still to return a verdict on a joint charge of bugging with Beck facing George Lincoln, aged 39, a former residential social worker of Sudbury, Suffolk. He has denied the charge. The jury will continue its deliberations today.

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Man cleared of 'chess move' killing

BY RONALD FAUX

A MAN accused of murdering a woman who has not been seen since she left a ferry in Dublin nearly two years ago was found not guilty yesterday by a jury on the direction of the judge at Liverpool crown court.

Colin English, aged 31, a computer designer of Seaford, East Sussex, had denied murdering Therese Terry, aged 41, of Preston, Lancashire, who apparently disappeared after being seen leaving the ferry with two men. Police claimed that chess moves Mr English drew showed where she was buried. However, after legal arguments over the admissibility of police evidence, Mr Justice Scheimann ruled in favour of the defence and the prosecution decided to offer no evidence. Five charges of fraud against Mr English were ordered to lie on the file.

After the hearing yesterday Mr English said he was convinced that Mrs Terry, a former close friend, was still alive and possibly living in Canada or the United States.

Mr English has spent 18 months in custody and is considering suing Lancashire police for false imprisonment. He said that the chess moves he had drawn while in custody were just doodles. But police handed the doodles to

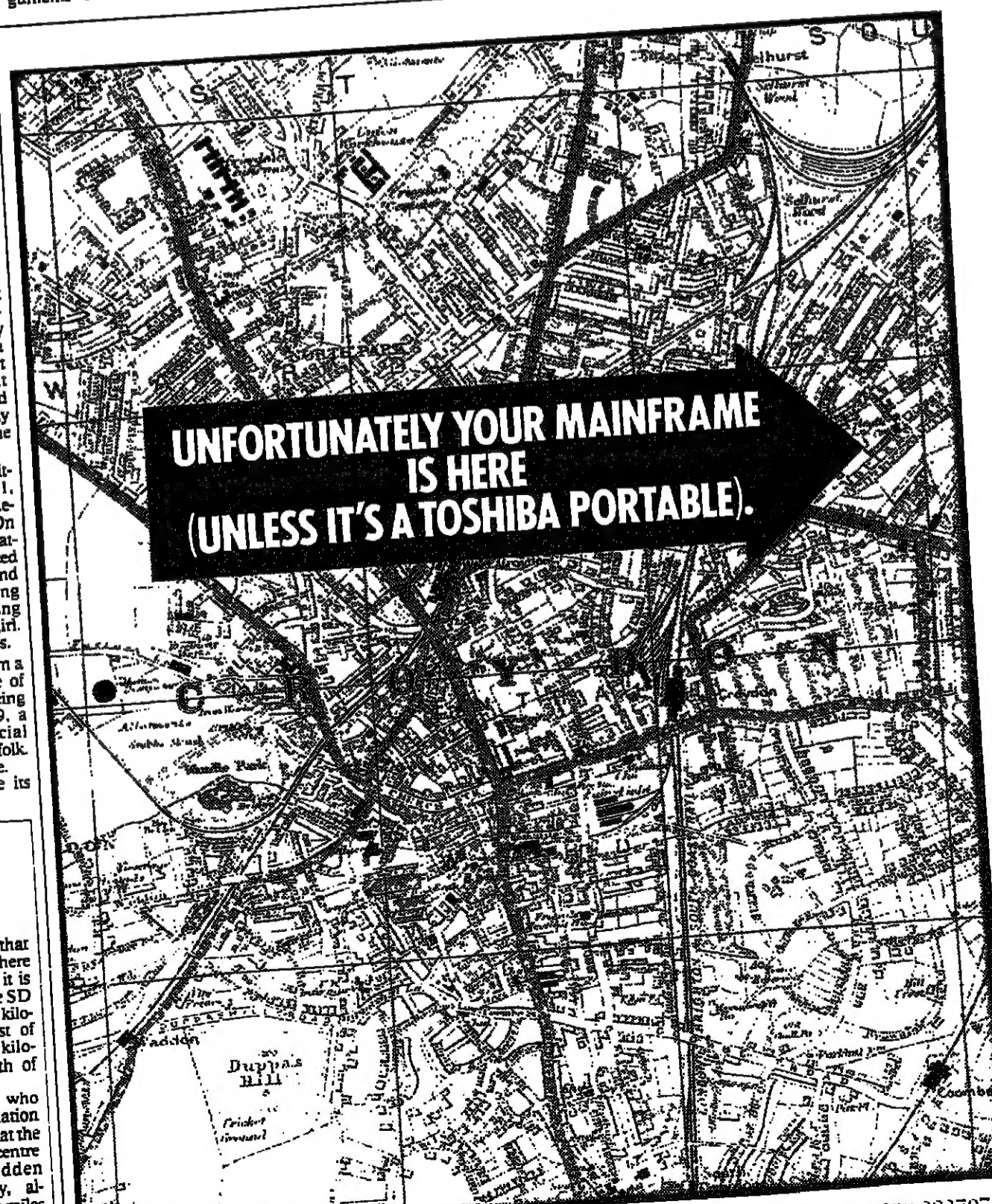
a chess specialist for examination. The specialist, Raymond Keene, a former British champion and *The Times* chess correspondent, said that he believed the doodles were a mirror image map of Ireland, and that Mrs Terry had been murdered and buried in Limerick by a man calling himself "the black knight".

In spite of a widespread police investigation no body has been found, but after Mrs Terry vanished money began disappearing from her bank account and Mr English was arrested.

Mr English said yesterday that he had worked with Mrs

Terry for eight years. He said that he had returned with her from Dublin to London a week later and they had gone together to see Frank Bruno in pantio. "We parted on Victoria station the next day," he said. Mrs Terry was planning to go to Australia via the United States, he said.

His solicitor, Paul Rooney, said he had advised Mr English, whose business had collapsed as a result of the enquiry, to seek damages from Lancashire police. He accused officers of flouting the law by denying Mr English the opportunity of having a lawyer present during interviews.



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Villagers take on a pivotal role

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

THE people living in the remote and beautiful Lancashire fell hamlet of Stonyhurst have always known that somehow they were special. Now it can be revealed why — the hamlet has been formally designated as the centre of Great Britain.

Meriden, near Birmingham, has a monument marking its status as the centre of England, but until now few people had considered where the centre of Great Britain was. Things could, however, be about to change for the people living in the handful of cottages scattered around the 400-year-old bridge over the Hodder between Clitheroe and Preston.

The revelation that Lower Hodder bridge, over which Cromwell marched his troops on August 16 1645 on

his way to the battle of Preston, was the pivotal point of Great Britain was made after a group of American tourists had demanded to start their visit at the country's centre.

Chris Carney-Smith, who publishes Signpost Guides to hotels, said many bodies, including the AA, RAC and National Geographic Society, could tell him the centre



of England but not of Britain. He eventually turned to Ordnance Survey, where researchers had made the calculations 20 years ago. The results were now gathering dust in archives in Southampton.

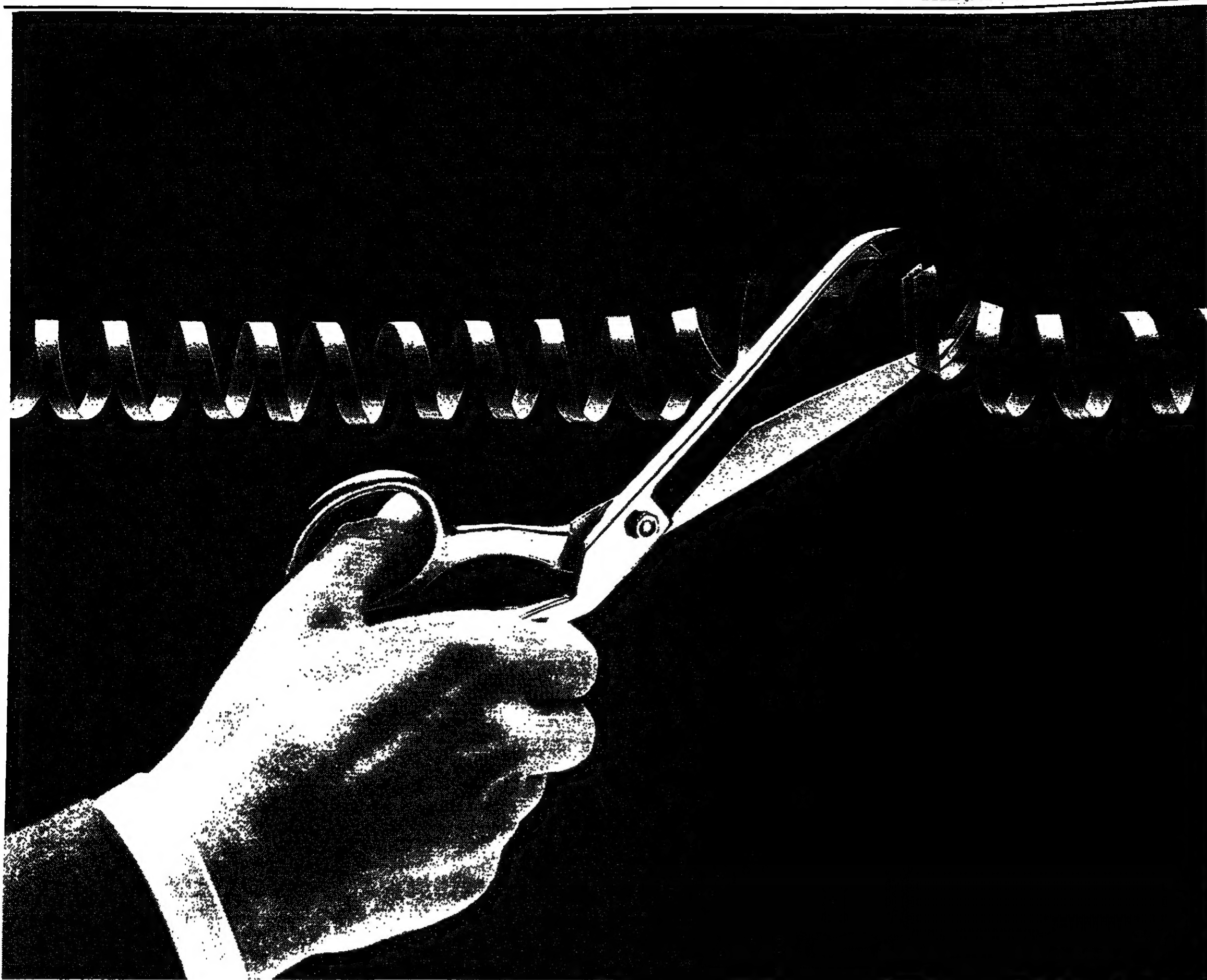
Ordnance Survey said: "We cut out maps of England, Wales, Scotland and the whole of Great Britain and suspended them from the ceiling from their extremities. When finding the centre of Great Britain, for example, we hung the wooden model from the Isle of Skye, Norfolk, John O'Groats and Land's End and then ran a plumb line down from each point. Where the lines intersected we classified as the centre."

"No one had asked us before but we are now happy to

tell Mr Carney-Smith that we do actually know where the centre is." Officially it is at national grid reference SD 676424, which is 6½ kilometres (four miles) west of Clitheroe and nine kilometres (5½ miles) north of Longridge.

Mr Carney-Smith, who will include that information in future guides, says that the grid reference puts the centre spot at Lower Hodder bridge near Chaigley, although locals say he is miles out.

"The bridge is nowhere near Chaigley," said the local postmaster, Colin Roper. "It's at Stonyhurst. There are around seven or eight houses dotted around the bridge and everyone who lived there always said they were somewhat special. We never knew why before, though."



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The time has now come to apply for shares in the BT share offer.

If you registered with the BT Share Information Office, you may have received your prospectus and application form already. If not, don't worry, they'll arrive in the next few days.

Even if you didn't register, you can still apply. Application forms and prospectuses are available from most High Street Banks, and application forms will appear in the national press.

Once you've completed your application form, hand it in or post it in accordance with the guidance on the form. But please remember, if you hand it in, most banks will need it by 3.30pm on Tuesday December 3rd at the latest.

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Student prospects

Enrolment boom at polys reduces costs

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

POLYTECHNICS and colleges of higher education expect to cut their costs by 15 per cent in two years after several years of sharp rise in enrolments.

Early calculations predict almost 58,000 more students for them in 1991-2, a rise described by Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, as astonishing. Although the recession has slowed the pace of growth on part-time courses, full-time enrolments are up by 16 per cent.

Courses in engineering and science, previously the most difficult to fill, are among

those showing the strongest growth. Only in business subjects, where students are up by 17.5 per cent after several years of rapid growth, is the increase larger.

Bids for funded places in 1992-3 suggest a similar rise in enrolments next autumn. The government's target of 9 per cent more students was intended to squeeze unit costs by 1.5 per cent, but the scale of recruitment will mean a reduction ten times greater over two years, their funding council estimated yesterday.

The extra enrolments this year will require costs to be

cut by 5 per cent rather than the 1 per cent expected by the government. Roger Madura, finance director of the funding council, will tell polytechnic and college directors at the council's annual conference in London today that the cut may reach 15 per cent by the end of 1992-3.

Students' and lecturers' unions say many polytechnics and colleges are overcrowded, but Her Majesty's Inspectorate says standards are continuing to rise. Middlesex polytechnic students have been sitting in for a week in protest at overcrowding and budget cuts.

The funding council has decided to pay for up to 90 per cent of the places requested by institutions, but to set aside £20 million for new teaching equipment and other measures to cope with the increasing numbers of students. In the current year, polytechnics and colleges took 15 per cent more students than the council paid for, receiving fee income alone for the extra numbers.

The biggest overall increases were in colleges trying to meet proposed criteria for university status. Luton College of Higher Education and Southampton Institute of Higher Education registered increases of more than half on full-time courses.

	90-91	91-92	Diff	%
Anglia	2,849	3,409	560	19.7
Birmingham	4,710	5,331	621	13.2
Bournemouth	1,882	2,042	160	8.5
Brighton	4,837	5,377	540	11.2
Bristol	5,095	5,630	534	10.5
City of London	3,599	4,107	508	14.1
Coventry	4,088	4,349	261	6.4
Hatfield	3,587	4,040	453	12.6
Huddersfield	2,762	3,203	441	16.0
Humbly Grove	3,516	4,546	1,030	29.3
Kingston	4,700	5,255	555	11.8
Lancashire	4,382	5,285	903	20.6
Leeds	5,674	6,538	864	15.2
Leicester	6,036	7,275	1,239	20.5
Liverpool	6,013	6,556	543	9.1
Manchester	8,193	9,786	1,593	19.4
Middlesex	4,700	5,785	1,085	23.1
Newcastle	4,530	5,035	505	11.1
Nottingham	4,052	4,274	222	5.5
Oxford	4,995	5,605	610	12.2
Central London	4,302	4,415	113	2.6
East London	4,749	5,316	567	11.9
North London	2,438	3,218	780	32.0
West London	8,533	7,958	-575	-6.7
South West	5,648	5,955	307	5.4
Portsmouth	4,721	5,564	843	17.9
Sheffield City	3,600	5,199	1,599	44.4
South Bank	4,245	4,937	692	16.3
Staffordshire	4,124	4,920	796	19.3
Sunderland	2,879	3,089	210	7.3
Teeside	4,829	5,875	1,046	21.7
Thames	6,311	7,032	721	11.4
Wolverhampton	150,973	172,257	21,284	14.1

Graduate jobs slump worsens

THE recession is still deepening in the graduate employment market, careers advisers reported yesterday (John O'Leary writes).

The number of employers taking part in next term's "milk round" of campus interviews is down by a third. Up to one in ten of this year's graduates is still unemployed.

A survey of the employment scene for 1990 graduates, published yesterday, showed a 40 per cent increase in those without work six months after leaving university. In polytechnics and colleges of higher education, the unemployment rate was already over 10 per cent.

The annual survey by the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services found women more successful than men in finding jobs or places for further study. There were also wide variations in the success rates for different subjects.

University graduates in law and civil engineering escaped the worst of the downturn,

with fewer than one in 50 unemployed. However, even civil engineering has suffered further in the recession, and prospects for this year's graduates are poor. Polytechnic graduates in art and design, geography, mathematics, physics and sociology were worst hit in 1990, while almost one in five of those taking a college BSc were still without work at the end of the year.

The report, *What do graduates do?*, predicted that the market would take several years to return to the levels of the 1980s once the recession ended. Norman Lloyd, the editor and director of the careers service at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, said that unemployment was expected to be higher this year, although most graduates were still finding jobs within 12 months.

What do graduates do? (Hobson Publishing, Bateman Street, Cambridge, CB2 1LZ; £3.70)

Fish 'first came ashore in Elgin'

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE world's first animals crawled from the seas on to land near what is now Elgin in Scotland, an Oxford University scientist is claiming.

The event occurred about 367 million years ago or seven million years earlier than palaeontologists had believed, according to Dr



Per Ahlberg, a palaeontologist in the university's zoology department. He made the claim after examining fossilised bones and fragments in museums across the country.

They all come from a site called Scot Craig in Grampian which was discovered in the 1820s by a local schoolteacher and excavated by amateur naturalists until the mid 19th century.

Early tetrapods, vertebrates which had lungs and gills for living on land and in the sea, have been found

in Greenland, Canada and Latvia. Those finds date from the late Upper Devonian age of about 360 million years ago, whereas the Scot Craig fossils date from the middle Upper Devonian period.

What sets early tetrapods apart from fish is that they had primitive limbs with ankles and toes rather than fins. Dr Ahlberg says a tibia or shin bone taken from Scot Craig resembled early tetrapod finds but it had two joint surfaces for ankle bones. "This shows it belonged to an animal with an ankle and if you have an ankle you almost certainly also have toes," said Dr Ahlberg, whose findings are reported in *Nature*.

The scientist suspects that more than 20 other fossils, which include lower jaws and upper jaws, come from the same creature. The fish from which this first land dweller evolved had conical skulls for streamlined swimming. Dr Ahlberg said the Scot Craig fossils show the animal had a fish-like skull, a feature typical of early tetrapods and today's crocodiles. He suspects that the animals acquired limbs because they were living in shallow swamp waters and needed to move from one mudbank to another.



Bones of history: an archaeologist clearing soil from the skeleton of the Iron Age horse at Stratford. In the smaller ditch are the bones of a human being

Tube dig finds Iron Age bones

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

SKELETONS of a human and a horse which archaeologists believe may have been sacrificial victims have been found in an Iron Age grave unearthed in excavations for London Underground's proposed Jubilee Line extension.

The skeletons were found lying at either end of a semi-circular burial chamber, 4ft below the surface, near the Lea river in Stratford, east London.

The grave has been dated to around 300 BC, and is being seen as one of the most significant Iron Age discoveries in the London area.

Iron Age man was of Celtic extraction, and spoke a language similar to Welsh. Throughout the period, horses were regarded as sacred and their skulls were sometimes placed as offerings at the entrances to fortifications.

The discovery of a man alongside a horse has, however, raised the possibility that both were killed as part of a religious ritual.

John Dillon, an archaeologist from the British Museum seconded to the Jubilee Line excavation team, said that few Iron Age cemeteries had been found.

"Evidence from other sites suggests that after death, human bodies were dismembered, possibly as

part of a ritual offering to a deity," he said.

Because of their place in society, people often were given the special treatment of being buried whole. The alternative was that they might have been a human sacrifice, he added.

David Wilkinson, an archaeologist from the Oxford Archaeological Unit, which is excavating the site, said: "This discovery is something special."

"The horse is likely to have been sacrificed for religious reasons. Sacrifice is a possible explanation for the remaining skeleton, although with limited direct evidence it is difficult to be sure."

London was established as a city by the Romans who conquered the local inhabitants, during which time the need for communications to the continent up the Thames and along the Lea Valley would have made Stratford more important than the capital.

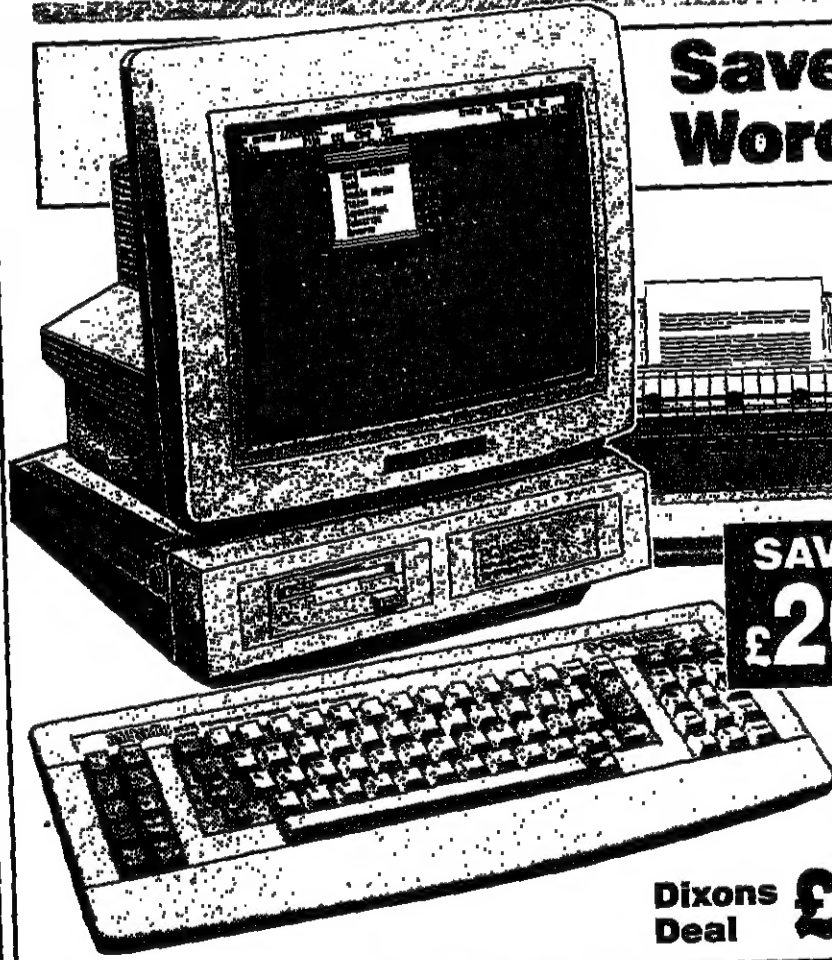
The remains of an Anglo-Saxon prince buried with his horse have been discovered at the Sutton Hoo burial ground at Woodbridge, Suffolk.

They are the first contents of a burial mound at the riverside site to be found intact by archaeologists since the great ship burial was unearthed in 1939.

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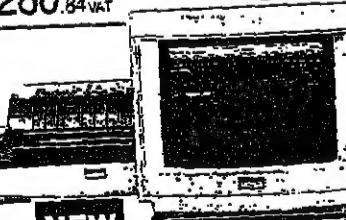
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Baker tackles urban menace

Tough joyride bill punishes passengers

BY RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PASSENGERS in cars driven by joyriders face an unlimited fine and an automatic driving ban under legislation announced by the government yesterday.

The decision to convict passengers as well as the drivers is part of the government's response to concern at the scale of joyriding.

Passengers and drivers will be held equally guilty under the Aggravated Vehicle-Taking Bill and the onus of proof is to be reversed where there has been dangerous driving or damage to property or the vehicle.

Suspects will have to prove that on the balance of probabilities they were not present when the offence took place.

Police have often been able to catch a suspected joyrider but have found it difficult to prove who was responsible for causing damage to the car, other vehicles or property.

Joyriders who kill and are convicted of murder or manslaughter will continue to face life imprisonment.

Those who cause death but cannot be charged with murder or manslaughter, usually because of a lack of evidence, would face a maximum five years' imprisonment, an unlimited fine and an unlimited automatic driving ban.

Kenneth Baker, who promised action against joyriders after riots in the North-East this summer, said: "Joyriding

is a gross misnomer for destructive and irresponsible behaviour.

"The public has had enough of such behaviour, and the wrecked lives, families and properties which it causes."

The home secretary added: "The new provisions will make all those involved liable for any dangerous driving, damage, injury or death which followed from the taking of a vehicle."

"They will no longer be able to evade responsibility for these consequences just because they took place out of sight or a number of offenders may have been involved."

The maximum sentence for joyriding where no death results would be six months' jail, a maximum fine of £2,000, increasing next year to £5,000 under the 1991 Criminal Justice Act, and an automatic minimum one-year driving ban.

The new offence will apply to juveniles aged from 15 to 17 who will face custodial sentences of up to a year, while those under 15 will face community sentences. The automatic driving ban will apply to those under 17.

Mr Baker, who was accused of dithering over the bill when it failed to figure in the Queen's Speech, hopes it will receive Opposition support to ensure that it becomes law as soon as possible.

A minister claimed last night that Scots were well protected against joyriders and that penalties planned for England would not be needed north of the border. Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, home affairs minister, said: "In serious cases, the common law provides for unlimited penalties."

In Scotland, joyriders can already go to jail for 12 months under the Road Traffic Act.

They can be charged at the same time under common law with theft or malicious mischief and therefore be liable for longer sentences.

The RAC has begun an enquiry into how a confidential booklet on bypassing car alarms fell into the hands of a car thief.

It was found to be missing only when police found it in a recovered stolen car.

The RAC fears it may have been copied and passed on to other criminals and joyriders.

The enquiry is centred on the RAC training centre in Bressett, Walsall, from where it is believed the book was stolen. An RAC spokesman said: "It lays out how to bypass car alarms and security systems so if someone has locked their keys in a car, the patrolman will be able to get in. An investigation is under way because we think it was stolen from Bressett."



Night watch: Lance Corporal Steve Williams of the Royal Marines shows off the night vision goggles he will be using in the hunt for deer poachers on the Quantock hills in Somerset. Warden concerned at growing poaching of wild red deer for the venison trade have called in the marines to help them out. The soldiers, from the Norton Manor

marine camp at Taunton, will be used for surveillance rather than arresting poachers. A marines spokesman said: "These guys are very good at hiding and camouflage. They will position themselves over the Quantocks in the areas most likely to be used by poachers and stay up there for a couple of days using their survival skills. The actual apprehension of

miscreants would be down to the police." Chris Edwards, a Quantocks warden, said that poaching was a big threat to the estimated 500 deer. "It is impossible to set up a proper management scheme for the deer if you have poachers shooting them willy-nilly." Timing of the scheme will depend on the marines' other commitments.

Crime is paying off, say police

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

CRIMINAL justice has tilted so far in favour of defendants that criminals have never had a safer time to commit crime and are making large profits with little to fear, according to police evidence to the royal commission on criminal justice, released yesterday.

To redress the balance, the police have called for a prosecution right to produce some criminal records during trials, to comment in court on a suspect's silence under questioning, greater defence pre-trial disclosure, restrictions on the right to trial by jury in some areas, and pre-trial reviews to shorten trial times. The proposals are in a 250-page submission made jointly by the three groups that represent all police ranks.

Commenting on the police evidence, Brian Johnson, the chief constable of Lancashire and president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said that the criminal justice system had many virtues but in some areas it was inefficient or ineffective. Too many criminals were going free, he said.

He criticised the use by lawyers of tactical not guilty pleas, which could hold back a case for a year or more only to be reversed at the last moment. There were up to 48,000 such cases each year.

There was also a cynical abuse of the right to choose trial by jury. In the crown courts, 10 per cent of cases ended with defendants being bound over and another 30 per cent received no custodial sentences.

The evidence, submitted in the past week, does not support a move towards the French model of examining judges to oversee investigations, and the police reject any suggestion that the Crown Prosecution Service should decide whether suspects should be charged.

The police do not accept the need for confessions to be corroborated, arguing that it is unnecessary if confessions are properly obtained. According to prosecution figures, only 0.65 per cent of confessions are challenged in crown courts and only 0.4 per cent are overturned.

A proposal for a quasi-judicial forum of lawyers and laymen to refer cases to the Court of Appeal, put forward by Douglas Hurd, the former home secretary, and others, has also failed to win police support. The police favour greater use of retrials, ordered by the appeal court. The police evidence noted that it seemed illogical to have faith in the jury system and then disavow it later.

Animal research units hit by fires

BY KERRY GILL

ANIMAL rights activists may have been behind fires that broke out simultaneously at three veterinary research establishments on the outskirts of Edinburgh yesterday causing more than £250,000 of damage.

The centres, the Royal Dick School of Veterinary Studies for tropical veterinary medicine, the Scottish Agricultural College animal behavioural science building, and the Ministry of Agriculture's veterinary investigation centre, are within a mile of each other on the Bush estate, Penicuik.

Morley Sewell, the tropical medicine director, said that more than £200,000 of damage had been caused and he had lost material collected from different countries over the past 30 years. Dr Sewell added that activists could not object to the centre as it was involved mainly in research into diseases suffered by

animals in the tropics. "We don't really anticipate we would be a target because of the sort of work we do for the developing world."

Det Supt Eric John, who is leading the investigation, said: "The fact that there were three fires at the same location is obviously suspicious and that is how we are treating it at the moment." He refused to rule out the possibility that the fires were the work of extremists.

The blaze at the agriculture college was understood to have started in temporary buildings in the grounds while the fire at the veterinary investigation centre began in a sterilizing room off a laboratory. Both were quickly brought under control and little damage was done.

Yesterday many students and staff at the centres said they were convinced that the damage was the work of animal extremists.

Solicitor spent £4m fraud cash

A solicitor who defrauded banks and building societies of £4,075,226 was jailed for ten years yesterday. John McCabe, aged 41, of Edinburgh, admitted 34 charges of fraud and an attempted fraud between March 1983 and November 1990.

The High Court in Edinburgh was told that McCabe set up guest houses and nursing homes, but faced with escalating costs embarked on the biggest series of frauds by a solicitor in Scotland. He fled to Uruguay, leaving a taped confession, when accountants arrived at his firm. A week later he returned to Britain.

All the money had disappeared, the court was told. Scottish lawyers are likely to have to pay £900 each to cover the outstanding frauds.

Fans held

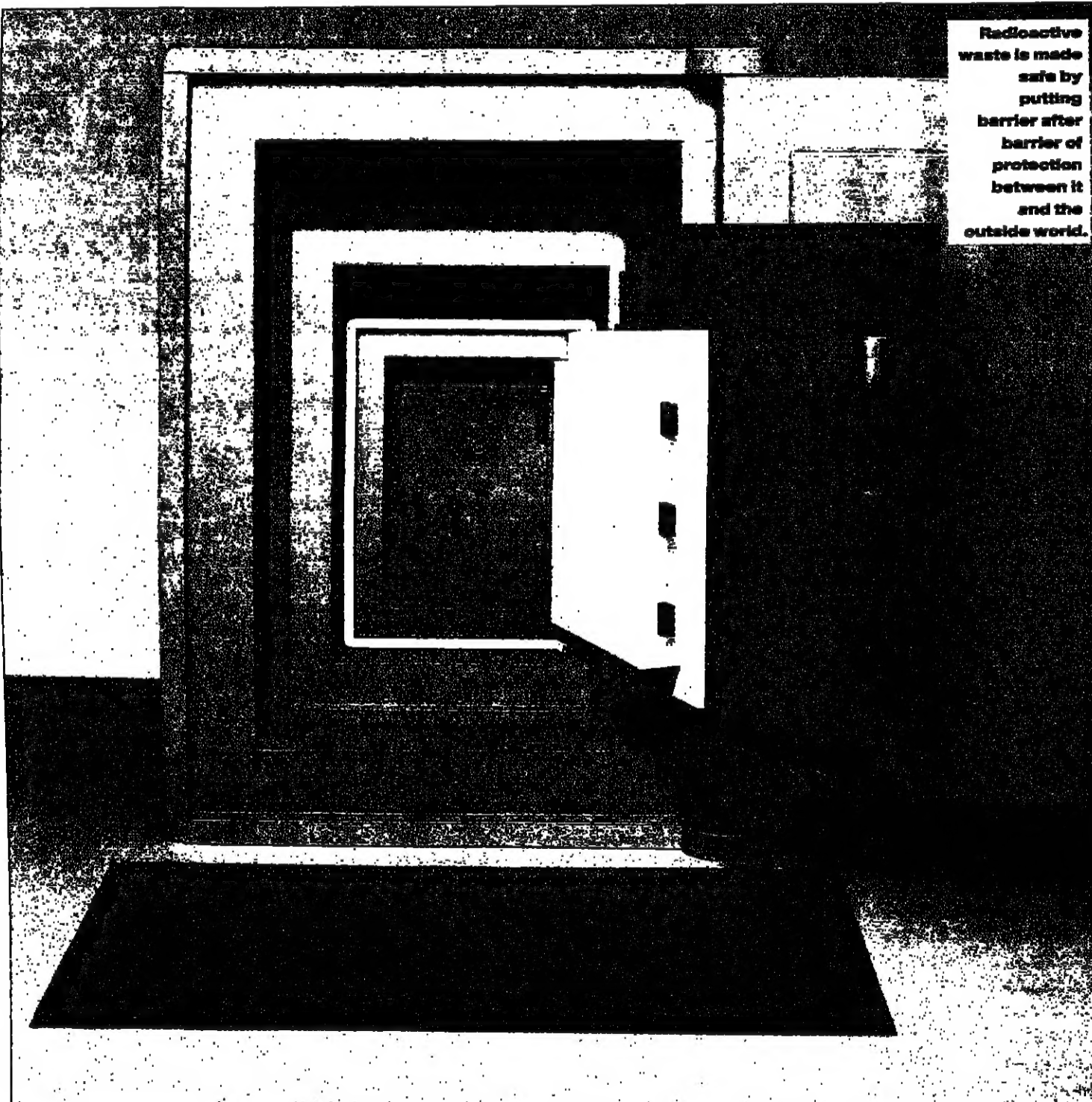
Seven Liverpool soccer fans were detained by Innsbruck police over an unpaid £700 night-club bill, missing last night's UEFA Cup third-round tie between Liverpool and FC Tyrol.

DJ cleared

A disc jockey, Tony Salmon, aged 28, of Birmingham, was found not guilty at Leeds crown court of the murder or manslaughter of a rival DJ, Frank Harris, who was stabbed during a carnival.

Cloudy outlook

A hotelier at Lyme Regis, Dorset, who axed 13 protected trees to improve his sea view was fined £3,400 and ordered to pay £1,080 compensation.



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Benn defeated as Labour confirms EC union stance

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR leaders approved a new policy stance yesterday underlining the party's "positive" approach to European political union.

The ruling national executive roundly defeated a move led by Tony Benn for a referendum before any power was transferred from Westminster to European Community institutions.

In one of Labour's strongest statements of support for economic and political union, the document states: "Labour sees the development of the political dimension of Europe as a vital component to the

integration at an economic and monetary level which the party considers to be inevitable and desirable."

Neil Kinnock confronted the Euro-sceptics inside and outside his party by saying that he would not make an appeal to "crypto-nationalism". He added: "I will not try to kid anyone that there is some kind of life out of the EC or some kind of half-life within it—we are dealing with the realities."

Turning to Mr Benn and Dennis Skinner, the only two NEC members to back the referendum call (it was defeated by twenty-four to two), he said: "I will not be trying to fool people, as you are, that there can be some sort of half-life on the edge of EC activities."

He added: "Do not try to kid yourselves or kid anyone else that if a referendum ever did take place it would be on any question other than 'do you want to remain in the EC, yes or no?' That is the basic issue and the basic choice and the result would be yes." The referendum idea was "simply a device Mrs Thatcher is using to wage war against the person who beat her for the leadership. Labour will have none of it."

The document set out Labour's alternative negotiating stance for Maastricht. The main plans are: adopting the social charter and social action programme setting out working conditions and standards throughout the Community; giving priority to "widening" the European Community to include countries such as Austria, Sweden, Malta and Cyprus; establishing qualified majority voting on environmental and social issues; and giving more powers to the European

parliament to exercise control over the Commission.

A Labour government taking over the EC presidency late next year, it said, would put the future widening of the Community among its top priorities. Labour would back enablement by the European parliament to initiate proposals for legislation. The parliament's right to a "second reading" on certain EC decisions would be extended to social and environmental legislation.

The document also backed new competences in certain limited fields not covered by the present treaties, including industry, tourism, public health, culture, trans-European networks and education. The document stated that it would be premature to consider qualified majority voting on foreign and security matters, and opposed any military role for the EC.

Bryan Gould, shadow environment secretary, explained Labour's support for a greater role for the European Community in environmental issues. He said: "I think we recognise that the environment does not know national boundaries; it goes well beyond each country's own jurisdiction."

One obstacle for Labour, as for the government, is the word "federal" in the draft treaty on political union. The policy paper said: "The use of the word 'federal' in the draft treaties has served to confuse rather than to clarify the debate... It is critically important that whenever a reference is made to the term there is clarity among all member countries, the commission and the parliaments about its meaning."

Europe reports, page 9

Tories setting less store on EC pact

POLITICAL NOTEBOOK
By ROBIN OAKLEY

There has been a noticeable effort by ministers in the past few days to lower expectations over the Maastricht summit.

So far, effort has been concentrated on scenario A: the return with a deal just about saleable to the Commons that would be presented as a triumph of negotiating skill in adverse circumstances. Now there is talk, too, about preparing the troops for scenario B, best summed up as "no deal is better than the bad deal which was the only thing on offer".

Many senior Tories see a deal also as essential to avoid a sterling crisis and the rise in interest rates that would drive their constituency organisations to despair (they pay tribute incidentally to the coolness under fire of Norman Lamont, who seems to be making something of a breakthrough with the troops after his robust and candid wind-up speech in the Europe debate).

Mr Major, it has been argued until lately, would not cut a convincing figure wrapped in the Union Jack saying that Europe was going off in the wrong direction. Whatever people's irritation with Brussels dictates on the flavour of potato crisps, they wanted us as fully participating partners.



Lamont: his coolness is winning him friends

not once again the isolated one out of twelve. Fighting our corner would no longer be enough. People had expected Mrs Thatcher's successor to take us out of the corner.

But now there are voices within the cabinet suggesting that coming back without a treaty might not be such a disaster after all.

Labour's readiness to embrace everything European with such fervour, they reckon, has widened the government's options. And, with public opinion measured as much closer to Mr Major's pragmatic caution on Europe than to the open-armed cohan-hithers of convert Neil Kinnock, then it becomes quite possible for Mr Major to return and say: "I tried in good faith for a settlement, but there was nothing which I thought good enough for the British people and Parliament. We shall, of course, keep on trying."

Opinion poll evidence has led some Tory strategists to see merit in Peter Shore's argument that, by donning the mantle of the pro-European party, Labour have left themselves open to attack as a party that will sell Britain short. As he puts it: "With defence no longer the Tories' strong point, this could be the Nineties equivalent for the Tories of unilateral disarmament."

So intense has been the debate at Westminster, so thoroughly has it crowded other political subjects off the stage, that politicians and commentators alike have been in danger of getting it all out of perspective. Some ministers argued

anxiously that the replacement of Bill Cash and his Euro-sceptic colleagues by a bunch of pro-Europeans as the officers of the Tory backbench European affairs committee might have "sent the wrong signals to Europe", convincing Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, and others that Mr Major from that moment on had a pliantly pro-European party and no longer needed concessions.

Others soon after argued that too many Tory voices against in the two-day European debate in the House of Commons might have led European leaders to conclude that, whatever concessions were made to Mr Major, he would be unable to sign up to the deal, and therefore it was not worth making any.

The truth is that, for all the ambassadors present at that debate, Europe does not care that desperately about the fine print of British politics.

The Christian Democrat cabal and the renewed debate about the survival of the opt-out clause on the single currency have made Westminster politicians realise at last that negotiating stances, pre-Maastricht, pre-1992, are not phenomena confined only to Britain. Nor are any of the various concessions won so far set in concrete.

As we were insisting when the European monetary union treaty was full of things we could not accept: everything remains negotiable until all is settled at Maastricht.

Parties get poll talks

John Major announced clearance for opposition parties to have access to civil servants from the end of the year so that they can discuss organisational changes likely to result from any change of government.

The prime minister said in a written reply that the convention was that such contacts should be authorised "in the last six months of a Parliament or when a general election has been called".

Haute cuisine for MPs

MPs and staff at Westminster can look forward to haute cuisine in their cafes and restaurants with the appointment of the first Commons director of catering services. The job has gone to Susan Harrison, a former operations manager with Rous Restaurants. John Major, whose favourite foods have been well documented, once compared House of Commons food unfavourably with that being served to troops in the Gulf.

African aid

African countries received 46 per cent (£389 million) of United Kingdom gross bilateral aid last year and have a high priority in the overseas aid programme, Lynda Chalker, overseas aid minister, said in a Commons written reply. About half of multilateral aid also goes to Africa.

New bishop

The new Bishop of London, the Right Rev David Hope, was introduced in the House of Lords.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Treasury; prime minister. Proceedings on the Welsh Development Agency bill. Lords (3): Offshore safety bill, committee.

Cook, the sound-bite master, goes home with a prize

BY OUR POLITICAL EDITOR

ROBIN Cook remarked yesterday on receiving the prize as Parliamentarian of the Year at the annual *Spectator* lunch that there was no longer walk than that from the House of Commons library to the chamber when you were speaking in an important debate.

But if the red-bearded member for Livingston is ever nervous, he never shows it. Even Tories acknowledged him as a razor-sharp debater formidable in a combination of withering sarcasm and well marshalled statistics. He has, too, the necessary talent for the television sound-bite, describing one recent Chancellor's effort as "a budget for the greedy, paid for by the needy". Few in politics do a better line in moral outrage.

As Labour's health spokesman, Mr Cook helped to harry John Moore into dismissal from Margaret Thatcher's cabinet and both Mr Moore's



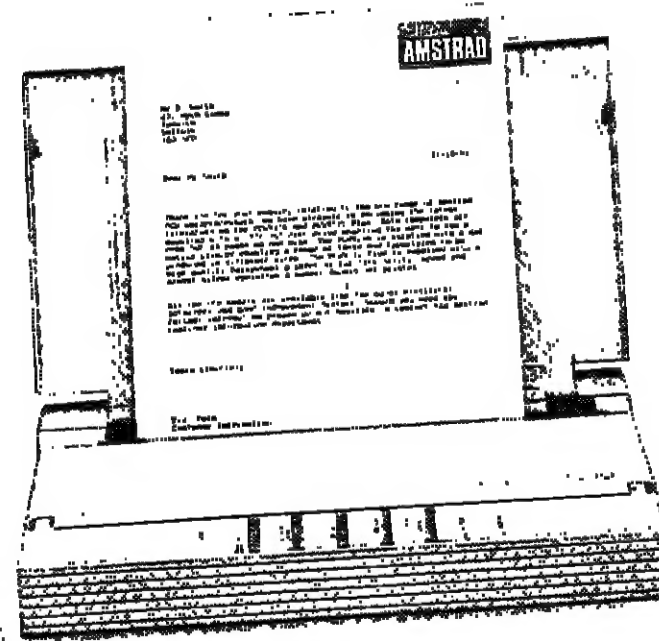
successors, Kenneth Clarke and William Waldegrave, the present health secretary, have known they have been in a fight after jousting with Mr Cook. He said yesterday that an argument that could not stand its ground in the Commons chamber did not deserve to win ground outside. Although health has always

been a good subject for Labour, Mr Cook, harrying the government over the NHS reforms, has helped to take it to the point where it is given as the largest single reason for people withholding their votes from the Conservatives. The son of a headmaster, married to a medical consultant, Robin Cook is no Identikit Labour politician. He rides regularly, loves a day at the races and has campaigned openly for proportional representation against the party line. His obvious relish for his own cleverness does not endear him to all his colleagues.

Other award winners yesterday were: politician to watch, David Mellor; campaigner of the year, Bill Cash; backbencher of the year, Dave Nellist, with a special award to the former Labour leader, Michael Foot, who retires at the next election.

Leading article, page 17

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Equity seeks more roles for blacks

CASTING directors and scriptwriters must learn to become colourblind if Britain's black and Asian actors are to achieve fair representation in film and television, Equity's Afro-Asian members said yesterday. However, calls from several black actors for strict casting quotas were dismissed as unrealistic.

At a private conference organised by Equity's Afro-Asian committee entitled "Does Colour Really Matter?", the acting union's 1,000-strong ethnic membership called instead for an action programme that would force directors and producers to award parts on ability alone, unless the script calls for an actor with specific physical characteristics.

Ian McGarry, the Equity general secretary, said that the union's council will decide in the coming months how to put its integrated casting policy into action. He told the conference he was shocked by advertisers' seeming lack of support for black actors, and promised that the union would put more pressure on them.

Art Malik, who starred in

Black actors want better television parts but believe quotas are not the answer, reports
Melinda Wittstock

Jewel in the Crown, said that quotas would be open to misuse, as casting directors would be tempted to fill up the required number of Afro-Asian roles with extras. "Such an approach would mean that blacks and Asians miss out on the leading parts, hired instead to sit around a table in a pub as extras," he said.

Louis Mahoney, chairman of Equity's Afro-Asian committee, believes Equity should set up a mechanism in conjunction with the Commission for Racial Equality to guarantee more roles for blacks and Asians. In line with the Race Relations Act (1976).

"We wanted quotas discussed, but I can see the difficulty with them. What we need to do is persuade employers to take an integrated approach. Shakespeare is

performed all over the world, in India, in Spain, everywhere. Audiences are capable of forgetting about colour when they watch a play, but producers often forget that the audience is intelligent enough to suspend their disbelief," Mr Mahoney said.

Inspector Morse is set in Oxford where there is a large black community, but how many black faces do you see? *Vanderwalk* is set in Amsterdam where there is a real racial melting pot, but there is rarely a black face to be seen. Asians are never chosen to play the forensic scientist in *Inspector Wexford* even though the Home Office employs two Asian pathologists," he said.

Norman Beaton, best known as Desmond in Channel 4's sitcom *The Desmonds*, said good actors could make it whether they are black or white. But the good black actors would be underemployed and rarely hired for any non-traditional or non-stereotypical role unless writers and producers changed their attitudes.

Black casting, page 16



Beyond temptation: a visitor views a live model, representing Eve, in a glass case at a Rotterdam museum. The exhibition of human development, called *The Physical Self*, is staged by the British film director Peter Greenaway

Kissing gets a health warning

By NICK NUTTALL
AND ALAN MCGREGOR

A WARNING against heavy sensual kissing is being issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO) for World Aids Day.

The warning, covering so-called French kissing, is the first time that the United Nations body has been so explicit over the risks of this kind of contact. Last year it would only go as far as declaring that "kissing on the cheek" was safe.

An Aids specialist from the organisation indicated yesterday that the decision to issue the warning against sensual kissing "with a heavy exchange of saliva and possibly blood" was not based on any new scientific evidence. However, because sexual intercourse so often followed that kind of contact it was virtually impossible to ascertain whether the HIV virus was transmitted by the kissing, the official said.

British medical scientists have reacted to the warning with surprise. Anne Johnson, an Aids researcher at University College and Middlesex school of medicine in London, could not say how anyone might know what constituted a "heavy exchange of saliva".

She said she was also concerned that the key message about safe sex, namely the use of condoms, might get lost in the debate over kissing. "Any risk associated with deep kissing must be very small when compared with the risk associated with unprotected intercourse," she said. "I do not think we would have seen the reduction in gonorrhoea rates among gay men if there had been a big risk linked with kissing alone. What they gave up was penetrative anal sex, not deep kissing."

The warning will appear in a two-page pamphlet, *Tips for Safer Sex*, which is being made available for World Aids Day on December 1. It also advises, for the first time, that anyone involved in oral sex should wear a condom. "To be ever safer, engage in imaginative non-penetrative sex," it says.

The organisation suggests that the safest sex of all is no sex. The pamphlet contains advice on the use of condoms.

A survey of doctors in the United States found that half would not treat people with the Aids virus if they had the choice, and nearly a third see nothing wrong with withholding such treatment. Doctors withholding treatment should perhaps lose their medical licences, two doctors said in an editorial accompanying the study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Mercury created, page 22

City reaches for the stars

MR HAPPY, the smiling character that has symbolised Glasgow's regeneration for the past eight years, was sent packing yesterday when a new logo and slogan were adopted to promote the city (Kerry Gill writes).

The "Glasgow's Miles Better" campaign, which put the city back on the international map in 1983, gave way to "Glasgow's Alive", part of a marketing crusade whose logo has 11 shooting stars, each representing an EC country. The 12th appeared to be lost in space.

Stop the rot

Cairo: Egypt is summoning experts from around the world to a conference next year to help save the Sphinx. Experts will then have access to a host of data on its decay, gathered by instruments that have monitored the statue for more than a year. (AP)

Pest control

Auckland: The government has declared war on New Zealand's opossums and thousands will soon grace the tables of Hong Kong gourmets. The animal, which outnumbers New Zealand's 3.4 million people by about 22 to 1, devastates foliage in many forests. (AP)

Beach scum

Sydney: New deep-water sewage outfalls, designed to eliminate dirty beaches, are being blamed for polluting clean ones with grease balls and scum. The Water Board says it is because sewage is taken further out under the new system and is therefore spread wider. (AP)

Cost cutter

Athens: Buyers will start bidding at \$15 million (\$8.3 million) when the late Aristotle Onassis's yacht is sold next January. The 300-ft vessel, willed to the state by Onassis, is being sold because Greece cannot afford annual maintenance costs of \$1 million. (Reuters)

Cut above

Peking: A poll of Shanghai hospitals showed that more than half of births were by Caesarean section compared with 10 per cent in 1980. Mothers opt for the knife because anaesthetic makes it painless and they feel it produces more intelligent children, an official newspaper said. (Reuters)

NEWS PEOPLE

Walesa cleans up

Lech Walesa, the Polish president and a crossword addict, has won the equivalent of £2.80 in a newspaper crossword competition, the *Sztandar Młodzieży* daily reported yesterday. It said that President Walesa's entry, written on presidential stationery, was picked at random from dozens of correct entries. "Our phone call to the president's chancery confirmed our discovery — Lech Walesa reads our paper and solves our crosswords," the left-leaning newspaper said.

Sir Peter Ustinov, a renowned raconteur, found himself lost for words in Japan when he was asked at short notice to make a speech about refugees on behalf of the United Nations High Commissioner For Refugees. His hosts presented him with a strictly timed schedule but what worried him was that he doubted his ability to speak eloquently about refugees for the required 45 minutes. When his time came, however, he performed with customary aplomb. "They were running 19 minutes behind time," Sir Peter said. "I put them back on schedule."

A bout of exhaustion that put Gian-Carlo Menotti, the musical impresario, in hospital has had only a minor effect on the 80-year-old's lifestyle. The composer, director and founder of twin arts festivals in Spoleto, Italy, and Charleston, South Carolina, said: "Now instead of two glasses of wine, I drink one, and I go to bed at 1 am instead of 2 am. But I still have two festivals." He disclosed that the programme for next summer's

festival in Italy would include both Wagner's opera *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and Donizetti's *Il Duca d'Alba*. The Donizetti opera also will be performed in Charleston.

Independent television's plans to reshoot the 90-minute *Sweeney* original — called *Regan* — have infuriated John Thaw, the actor. "It was made more than 17 years ago," he said. "They ought to be putting out a new show, not this repeat that will just cost them a few hundred pounds. It was made as an Armchair Cinema film in 1974 and the actors will get just a tiny percentage of what they were paid then."

Kris Akabusi, the athlete of the year, says he takes his responsibility as a black role model seriously. "I feel a responsibility to portray everything good as a black athlete. I want to show that black people can excel in sport but that they are also articulate and they have more to offer society than just being sports people or cannon fodder. Akabusi is off to America next month to train for the Olympics.

A group of leading chefs were told by Jack Lang, the French culture minister, that they had to fight together to preserve the gastronomic traditions of the old world and to resist the vulgarisation of taste. He was speaking to more than 3,000 chefs in Paris at a meeting of Euro-Toques which tries to protect culinary quality.

Ladies and gentlemen, all we're asking for is a fair trial.

As you may have heard, some people (including a certain food lobby) have taken exception to our name. Silly isn't it? Because all we're saying is what we're not.

On the other hand, you might find the taste of our new spread rings a few bells. You see, it's made with buttermilk. It has a fresh, butter-like taste.

It's also high in polyunsaturates, low in saturates and contains virtually no cholesterol.

Could it be our rivals are frightened of a little healthy competition?

Well, you can judge that for yourself. Just look for our special trial pack in the shops.

Take it home, spread it on and take a bite.

Then ask yourself. Have we really given ourselves a bad name?

I Can't Believe
It's Not
Butter!

FREE
OFFER
500g

VEGETABLE FAT SPREAD
WITH BUTTERMILK

MADE WITH ENLIGHTENED TOP-CLASS OILS
VEGETABLE OIL 90% BUTTER 10%

Art Bellows

Art Bellows

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The road to Maastricht

EC leaders find compromises

As Europe's leaders meet to solve their differences before the Maastricht summit, Brussels has agreed some changes, George Brock writes

AS THE Maastricht summit deadline loomed, Europe's statesmen played complicated word games yesterday to fashion last-minute compromises for the treaty on political and monetary union.

While John Major met Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, and Giulio Andreotti, the Italian prime minister, European Community governments struggled to interpret conflicting signals from the German government, variously interpreted as putting the squeeze on a reluctant British government, or as helpful attempts to find compromises for the summit.

The European commission, normally a source of robustly federalist ideas, agreed a declaration on the forthcoming treaty which toned down the bitter criticisms of the draft proposals made recently by Jacques Delors, its president. M. Delors has accused the treaty's authors of watering down the original ambitions for the treaty and betraying the ideals of European unification.

But yesterday's statement, agreed by all 17 commissioners including its two British members, avoided any clear definition of the EC's ultimate goal. Sir Leon Brittan, senior British commissioner, insisted that the passage on federal aims should be diluted. As finally agreed, the statement distinguishes between national and EC powers and then descends into barely comprehensible language to describe the EC's federal "perspective".

Want to join a single currency. The German government is spending this week considering the possible compromises which could resolve the outstanding problems in the treaty. Ministers and officials are thinking out loud to test the popularity of their ideas.

Talk of timetable "review clauses" in the treaty is not new. Review clauses already appear in the draft and are not opposed in principle by the British government. The argument is over whether the review should take place when the treaty takes place and whether the text should hint at the developments to be expected from the revision. Several federalist governments have, for the past few months, been indicating that if the Maastricht treaty fell below their expectations, they would argue for clauses which set up a "conveyor belt" movement towards federal union.

Margaret Thatcher was shrewd to highlight the phrases "conveyor belt" and "slippery slope". The last arguments over the treaty now turn on whether governments will be allowed the power to turn off the conveyor belt. Federalist governments which are sad that the momentum towards federalism has slackened would like to leave Maastricht comforted by the thought that the conveyor belt is still moving, albeit slowly.

Herr Kohl is groping for formulas which will appeal to federalists and allow Mr Major to leave Maastricht claiming he has ensured that Britain cannot be carried off on the conveyor belt. Bonn's preferred option seems to be a timetable of automatic changes which would move immigration and foreign policy within the community in 1996 without further reviews by governments. This version of conveyor belt federalism

was discussed by the six EC Christian Democrat leaders when they met near here on Tuesday night. The British government would be very unlikely to support any such binding or automatic commitments.

While German officials are emphasising their belief in timetables which would guarantee further federal developments later in the decade, they also have fallback positions. The treaty's review clauses could be "loaded" to pre-empt the results of a review, hinting that the conclusions would shift the community in a federal direction. Lastly, Britain could be offered "derogations" which would exempt it from treaty obligations it cannot accept.

The EC commission has been criticised by the community's financial watchdog for giving Polish farmers food and pesticides they didn't need — and then allowing the farmers to sell the aid they

had been given to customers in the EC. The annual report of the EC's Court of Auditors says that the EC's aid policies for Eastern Europe, hastily drawn up after the collapse of the communist regimes in 1989, suffered from having no "single consistent framework". The severest censure is reserved for gifts given to



Major: trying to find lasting solutions

Polish farmers in 1989 and 1990. Auditors found that large quantities of three Western pesticides were still stored unused at the end of 1990: stocks amounted to 20 per cent of the chemicals bought with a grant worth £30 million. They were unable to discover where the pesticides which had been delivered had gone and could not ascertain if the EC commission had checked whether the farmers received the goods.

Between August 1989 and May 1990, the EC delivered £100 million of food to Poland, without having checked whether Poland needed such quantities. As 300,000 tons of the EC's wheat mountain arrived in Poland in the spring of 1990, Polish farmers panicked, thinking that the gift from the West would glut the market.

They brought out of store all the hoarded wheat which they had earlier held back. If part of the harvest had not been hoarded in the first place, there would have been no "grain shortage" to attract the EC's sympathy.

Maastricht deal, page 1
Parliament, page 7
Lamont hopeful, page 23

Allies through the looking glass

BY WILLIAM WARD

WHATEVER the substance of the discussions between Mr Major and Signor Andreotti, his Italian counterpart, yesterday, the tone had to be substantially different from a bilateral meeting with M. Mitterrand or Herr Kohl. The British know more or less where they stand with the Germans and the French, but with the Italians they never know quite what to expect.

Italy has a curious resemblance to Britain — a Lewis Carroll sort of paradox, making Italy a sort of Great Britain through the looking glass. Both countries feel excluded from the cosy Franco-German axis. Their highest concentrations of wealth in the

area nearest to France and Germany, with a corresponding problem of economic isolation towards the geographical extremes. Unlike Britain, however, Italy has real local government, with parliaments or regional assemblies in each region.

Apart from broadly similar levels of unemployment and inflation, Britain's virtues are Italian vices, and vice versa. Their public debt is the highest in Europe, with public spending and labour costs continuing to rise. Iri, the umbrella state holding group presides over the largest nationalised empire in Western Europe, and has almost no intention of privatizing any-

thing. But the effects of their recession have been minimal, with most private companies in good shape, and with a continued consumer spending boom.

The two countries, however, have conflicting ideas about their place in the EC. What British critics condemn as "time-wasting Euro-babble", the Italians applaud as genuine political idealism. Instead of waging war over directives before grudgingly, but punctiliously, applying them all, the Italians say yes to everything, and then blithely ignore them.

Britain stands much to gain by cementing a London-Rome axis.

Council takes on Azeris

Moscow: The Soviet State Council, the country's highest decision-making body, urged Azerbaijan to restore the autonomous status of the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region, which was revoked on Tuesday (Bruce Clark writes).

After an emergency meeting lasting several hours, the council called on the Azerbaijan and Armenian parliaments to "cancel all acts which change the judicial status of Nagorno-Karabakh, a status fixed by the Soviet constitution, and to re-establish constitutional order on the region's territory." President Gorbachev has given a warning that the region is "on the brink of real war".

President Mubarek yesterday came under intense pressure at home and abroad to restrain the clamour in his Muslim republic for military action against Armenia. The Azeri leader was summoned by President Gorbachev for talks with Armenia's President Ter-Petrosian and other republican leaders.

Arms monitored

Moscow: Vadim Bakatin, chairman of the Soviet KGB, now redesignated the intelligence committee on security, said fears about the safety of the country's nuclear weapons had prompted Soviet leaders to set up special counter-espionage units in army divisions where nuclear weapons were held.

Italy wields axe

Rome: Italian military chiefs plan to cut the armed forces by a quarter — removing 90,000 men — to create a hard core of professionals to fit in with new Nato strategy involving rapid-reaction forces. (Reuters)

Leader attacked

Moscow: A man wielding a knife attacked Leonid Kravchuk, the Ukrainian leader, during a presidential election campaign tour in the city of Kharkov. A bodyguard saved Mr. Kravchuk from injury. (Reuters)

Dwarfing dignity

Paris: Dwarf-throwing, an off-beat sport that originated in Australia and has recently caught on in France, has been banned by the interior ministry as an "unacceptable attack on human dignity". (Reuters)

Bread and butter woes outweigh Ukraine poll

FROM ROBERT SEELY IN DONETSK

IN THE Donbass, the russified mining and industrial heartland of the Ukraine where only Lenin's statues outnumber the coal slag heaps, election fever has scarcely taken grip ahead of Sunday's presidential poll and referendum on secession.

The region, home to five million of the Ukraine's 52 million citizens, is expected to overwhelmingly back independence, like in most of the other regions of the Soviet Union's second-most populous and powerful republic.

Yet the mood here is very different from that of the western Ukraine, which will also vote for independence with a huge majority.

Workers in the 250 coal

mines and scores of other industrial enterprises located in the Donbass can muster little interest either in the cause of sovereignty, about whose exact meaning many seem confused, or in the presidential ballot. "The workers are apathetic, they can't see the point of these elections because they seem to be far from our difficulties. I personally won't be voting," Vladimir Sarabash, an ethnic Russian who is director of the Bunovka mine near Spartak village, said.

In its main pit tunnel yesterday, a group of workers had more practical things than politics on their minds. They were trying to set up right two coal trucks which

had derailed and cracked part of a wall. One of them, Valentin Krivych, aged 50, said he thought the Ukraine was unprepared for elections. "We have had too little democracy in our country; people have not needed to understand the system."

Edward Lugova, who has tolled at the pit for 15 of his 47 years, said: "People don't trust politicians any more. There has been a lot of talk but no action." He was doubtful whether any leader could solve the Ukraine's problems of food supply. "Sometimes sausage appears in the shops but it is impossible to find butter. Bread is the only thing that is available without difficulty," he said.

NEW YORK NOTEBOOK by Charles Bremner

Festivities mask a heart of darkness in Big Apple

The Japanese-owned Christmas tree is up in Rockefeller Plaza and the shopkeepers are wishing customers "Happy holidays", but this year it will take more than the festive lights on Fifth Avenue to lighten the gloom of New York city.

Wall Street is staggering, unemployment is soaring, the housing market has collapsed and the subway and bus fares are about to rise by 22 per cent. On the eve of today's Thanksgiving, even the light relief in the Big Apple comes with a macabre twist.

The Addams Family, a film based on the ghoulish graveyard humour of the late cartoonist Charles Addams and starring Anjelica Huston, this week drew the biggest audiences of any new film in the city's history. In the same vein of dark comedy, citizens of Brooklyn are being offered a novel way of raising funds for their Christmas shopping. All they have to do is hand in a firearm to the local police station and they receive between \$25 and \$75 (£14-£42) in cash. Only one question is asked: "Is it loaded?"

The amnesty is a desperate measure to remove at least some illegal firearms

from the streets. On the first day, Monday, 48 guns were turned in, several by law-abiding citizens whose children had brought them home.

Brooklyn was the scene of the worst school shooting for years on Monday. A squabble broke out among 16-year-olds outside a classroom at the Thomas Jefferson High School. The 14-year-old brother of one



youth drew his 9mm automatic and sprayed the classroom, killing one boy and critically wounding the computer teacher. The young gunman has been charged with murder and the press has been denouncing the school for failing to install metal detectors at the entrance. Carol Beck, the school principal, won an "American Hero" award

last year for inspiring pupils to eschew the ways of violence.

This week the women who shepherd children across the street at school crossings were issued with bullet-proof vests. The measure was hardly an overreaction, given that the last school killing was only three days before the Brooklyn incident. 40 children have been shot dead this year and 82 have been wounded, many of them by stray gunfire in and around their homes. A new craze among teenage thugs has appeared over the past few weeks to help police in their enquiries.

Young robbers have taken to video-taping their exploits. Three were arrested on Monday thanks to a tape which showed them beating a subway passenger, a museum director, close to death with a hammer. They are pleading not guilty.

Public outrage over the school shootings has been muted by their routine nature. Parents have been waxing more indignant this week over the launching of a new programme in which condoms are being handed out in classrooms free of charge to any pupils who ask for them.

He has big problems. Are they helping?



Course not.

JOHN THAW AS STANLEY DUKE IN

Stanley and the Women

Based on the novel by Kingsley Amis. Screenplay by Nigel Kneale. Starring Geraldine James, Sheila Gish, Penny Downie, Sian Thomas, Michael Aldridge, David Lyon, Alan Armstrong, Samuel West, Donald Churchill with Michael Elphick as Bert Hutchinson. Executive Producer Ted Childs. Produced by Chris Bart. Directed by David Tucker.

TONIGHT ON ITV



Middle East peace hits hurdle

Israel unveils new terms for talks

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

ISRAEL'S rightwing leadership yesterday threatened to derail next week's scheduled Middle East peace talks when it demanded a five-day postponement and listed other conditions for attending the negotiations.

The surprise decision, approved during the weekly meeting of Israel's 14-man inner cabinet, defied announcements made hours earlier by senior American State Department officials who insisted that the proposed December 4 resumption of Arab-Israeli dialogue in Washington was not negotiable. The Israeli decision was seen as an attempt to register its anger over the handling of the Washington talks, and to placate hardline members of the government who fear that Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, may be forced to make concessions in Washington.

Ehud Gol, Mr Rabin's spokesman, said last night that Israel wanted the five-

day delay in order to finalise details for the talks. But he added that the Israeli negotiating teams would only be willing to attend one or two sessions in the American capital with the Syrian, Lebanese and joint Palestinian-Jordanian negotiators.

"Israel is interested in the continuation of the peace process as soon as possible in direct negotiations between the parties," Mr Gol said. But he insisted that Israel believed that so long as the talks were held in Washington, the Arab states would attempt to manipulate the American hosts and audience.

"Out of respect to the US, Israel is willing to conduct one or two meetings in Washington in order that afterwards negotiations will be held in the region or its proximity," he said. Israel also wants the negotiations to be conducted in stages with a break of four or five days between one meeting and the next, with the first session to

take place on December 9.

The decision is likely to be received with dismay in Washington, where Margaret Tutwiler, the State Department spokeswoman, had insisted that it would not accept any conditions from the parties and that American diplomats in the Middle East had been instructed to send the message: "Here is the proposal - Washington DC, December 4. Let us know."

Israel's leftwing opposition and members of the Palestinian negotiating team reacted angrily to the Shamir government's decision. Shimon Peres, the Labour party leader, described it as "unnecessary and harmful" and added that if his party was in power the peace process would be well under way. In Amman, Haider Abdel Shafi, the head of the Palestinian delegation at the initial Madrid peace conference, said: "This is frustrating. Really I think they are just stalling."

Arab states are seeing the Israeli snub to the United States as an unprecedented split between them which offers an opportunity that must be exploited. Although there are divisions among the Arabs, Egypt and Saudi Arabia which are devising much of the strategy are pushing for maximum support for the American position in order to gain diplomatic advantage from what one senior Arab diplomat yesterday described as "the first White House administration for many years not completely over-balanced to Israel".

There has been resistance from Syria which by last night had also not given the unconditional acceptance to the Washington invitation, provided earlier by Jordan and Lebanon. The Palestinians were also holding out for concessions on the issue of visas for members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

But senior Egyptian officials have been attempting to press both Syria and the PLO to drop their procedural wrangles and to concentrate on permitting Washington the maximum leeway to put pressure on Israel.

Israel's reservations have also done little to placate one exasperated American Jewish leader, who even before the Israeli announcement told the *Jerusalem Post*: "They tell us that Israel has said for 43 years that it would travel to the moon for direct negotiations. And they point out that Washington is not the moon."

● **Washington:** Mr Shamir held more than 50 secret meetings with prominent Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, some of them in his own home, according to a newly revised book, *Ararat: In the Eyes of the Beholder*. (Reuter)

Leading article, page 17

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Leading article, page 17

Life in the fast food lane threatens bars of Paris

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

In France, of all places, the worldwide virus of fast food - the hamburger, the pizza and the pasta - is beginning to threaten the existence of the neighbourhood bars known since time immemorial as *zincs*.

Noisy, crowded, smoky and convivial, full of big-bellied men studying racing form in *Paris-Turf* over a beer or something stronger, and women with small dogs chatting together, these corner establishments, almost always run by a family, have for years provided a cosy retreat from the outside world. Here the local gossip flows as banker and binman drink comfortably side by side.

A true Parisian *zinc*, like my favourite spot by La Muette Metro station in the 16th arrondissement, much favoured by off-duty taxi drivers, is the nearest thing the French have to a working men's club. Regulars drift in and out on the way to the bread shop or on the way back from the nearby street market, thankfully parking baguettes and beautifully wrapped slices of cheese or sausage on the shelf below the metal counter before ordering.

There was a time, back in the mid-Fifties, perhaps even later, when these places might have had an accordion player serenading customers with songs by Piaf

and Aznavour. If the memory of grainy black and white films of the era serves, there would usually be a pair of star-crossed lovers at a table in the back, hands clasped as they murmured of the exquisite pain of a great passion. Alas, the corner cafes, from the centre of Paris to the deepest provincial town, are now under serious pressure from the late twentieth century, in the shape of bright and breezy fast-food joints where the ambience is unashamedly transatlantic. Over the past ten years, at least 30,000 *zincs* have closed down, sometimes leaving small villages without a single spot where locals can gather for a gossip about their crops or the useless local soccer team.

According to Robert Henry, head of the *Limonade* (small bar owners) section of France's union for cafes and restaurants, this sad trend is virtually irreversible. Reflecting, above all, the flight from city centres to safer and more attractive suburbs. The impact of severe economic difficulties that has hit coal mining, textiles and the steel industry in the industrial heart of the country has also contributed to the decline of the traditional *zinc*.

Yet the fast-food fad appears to be public enemy number one; above all, the

spread of town and city centre operations serving instant burgers, sausages, pizzas, sandwiches, and more besides. "Le McDo is killing us," complained one corner cafe owner in the magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur*. A McDonald's down the street, providing meals at a price the family operation simply cannot match, can slash their weekly takings by almost a third.

In self-defence, more and more *zincs* are displaying signs announcing that sandwiches and other fast-foods purchased elsewhere cannot be consumed at their tables: "we can make them for you here". But for every faithful client lingering over a *demi* of "33" beer, they are losing many more to the brassy charms of bright lights and non-stop pop music.

Certain grand establishments in Paris are, of course, immune to transient fashions, especially those which originate in America. At the Left Bank's Café Flore, haunt of Jean-Paul Sartre and his flock of self-proclaimed intellectuals, the august patron, M. Boubal, professes to be unworried. On the other hand, as he readily recalled in the same magazine, the Sartre set was lousy for business, lingering for hours on end over a single drink - "my worst clients," he said.

Soccer fans form militia

Red Star Belgrade football supporters have taken up arms to join the Serb-led federal army in skirmishes across the Croatian front line, Bill Frost writes

RED Star Belgrade football club supporters laid down their rifles, exchanged terrace chants for patriotic slogans, and picked up weapons early yesterday morning as they travelled to join Serb-led federal army forces on the battlefield in eastern Croatia.

In another bizarre twist to the civil war, dozens of recruits mustered at a bar close to the football club's ground in central Belgrade where they boarded a convoy of jeeps and muddy cars bound for the besieged Croatian city of Osijek. The unofficial supporters club, known as *Delije*, has sent fighters to the front line in the past. Zejko "Arkan" Raznjajovic, the leader of the volunteers, has said that during previous sorties, his militia was "not interested in taking Croat prisoners". Both sides have accused each other of atrocities against civilians.

Mr Raznjajovic, chairman of the unofficial supporters' club, commands fierce loyalty. His men hung on every word as a final briefing was given before the departure for Osijek. The Red Star irregulars will join private militias in action on the front line. Publicly, commanders with the federal army discourage such unofficial formations. However, the fighters seem to pass through army checkpoints with ease.

In eastern Croatia, machinegun fire was exchanged across the Drava river at Bilje, 100 yards from Osijek. Territorial forces with the federal army raked the tree-line on the Croat-held bank with bullets after a rocket attack. Sporadic fire was returned.

A young Serb reservist with red-rimmed eyes and a two-week beard pointed at the remains of the missile: "German-made. All Croatian weapons come from Germany. One fascist country helps another. It is just like the last war."

The Serb territorial forces are jumpy and battle-weary. Months of combat have turned friendly farm boys into frightened and frightened veterans.

Cocked weapons are waved around casually, with frequent bursts of firing into the air. Visitors to the front line can expect to be given a none-too-gentle prod with the barrel of a loaded Kalashnikov. Perhaps for effect, some fighters will saunter from their sandbags or blockhouses, to stand exposed to snipers on the west bank of the Drava.

Stevan Malkovic, zone commander for the Drava front, said he had many heavy artillery pieces at his disposal. "I could take you to the centre of Osijek in two hours, having smashed the defences," he said, crushing a cigarette packet beneath his fist to emphasise the point.

Mr Malkovic, who claimed to have killed 50 Croat soldiers, said the city was ready to fall, yet its defenders persisted in firing on his men. "They should stop now, otherwise we will have to go in before the United Nations troops come," he said.

On the road from Bilje to Dardo, just behind the front line, families were being moved into bullet-scarred houses by police. "They are Serbs who have been made refugees by Croats. Now they have Croat homes," said one officer.

In a sandbagged, breeze-block machinegun nest 150 yards from Croat positions, young Serbs oiled their weapons and scanned the west bank. "There is a good sniper in those trees there. Next time he fires, I will get him," said a 19-year-old who looked twice his age, as he stroked a grenade launcher.

Back on the road to Dardo, an old man lay handcuffed and spreadeagled on the bonnet of a police car. He was a Croat who had stayed on, a policeman said. "All this has become an autonomous region. We decide what happens. The Croats took homes and businesses from us, burnt us out and killed. Now we make the decisions." Mr Malkovic said.

Horses suffer in war

BY DAVID WATTS
DIPLOMACY
CORRESPONDENT

THE war in Yugoslavia is threatening another great facet of Europe's cultural heritage, the Lippizaner horse. Already at least 120 Lippizaners have been destroyed during an air raid in the town of Lipik.

Having survived the perils of two world wars and rescue by General George Patton, the breed is again menaced, this time by the civil war. Apart from those already killed, another 350 horses are severely injured, without drugs or bandages, while others face starvation.

Already a secret mission has been staged to move some 20 rare Lippizaners to safety in Hungary. Now the British Lippizaner society is appealing for cash and support for a follow-up in which food, drugs and bandages would be shipped to a point on the Hungarian-Yugoslav border. Donations should be sent to the society, c/o Mrs Harley, Starrock Stud, Underhill Farm, Ludwell, near Shaftesbury, Dorset.



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Cambodian peace hope threatened

By DAVID WATTS, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE hysterical crowds of Cambodians who tried to lynch Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge leader, yesterday may well have done more than satisfy their lust for vengeance against the Khmer Rouge.

They, and the government which allowed its troops to stand aside, may have jeopardised a successful end to almost 30 years of insurgency, civil war and starvation that have cost the lives of up to a million people and turned Cambodia into a wasteland. By rejecting a Khmer Rouge presence, in preparation for elections, they may drive them back to the battlefield from which they had been so recently seduced.

As Prince Sihanouk said, the Khmer Rouge need to be

"caressed or they turn nasty". He has now requested that the planned meeting of the coalition partners be held in Bangkok instead of Phnom Penh next week, but the outlook is uncertain. In jeopardy is the UN's most complex and expensive peacekeeping operation yet, estimated at \$1 billion (£550 million), and proof of the UN's ability to carry out its new post-Gulf war role.

Central to Chinese agreement on the future government of Cambodia and its all-important willingness to stop supplying the Khmer Rouge with arms, was Khmer Rouge participation in the coalition government, a Khmer Rouge presence on the Supreme National Council and participation elections to be held in 1993.

That concept is now in tatters. Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, the Supreme National Council representatives, plus their staff, are now licking their wounds in Bangkok. Anyone who has visited the national museum to Khmer Rouge horrors in the former lycée at Tuol Sleng with its endless photographs of severed heads and emaciated bodies, or visited the foaming acid pits where hapless victims were dispatched, cannot have been surprised. Yesterday's attack merely served to illustrate that the Cambodian peace pact signed in Paris in October did little more than paper over the cracks in Cambodian society. It is as if Geobels were being invited to join a coalition government in Berlin.

Cambodia attack, page 1

Black allies fall out

FROM ROYTER IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's radical Pan-Africanist Congress yesterday accused the African National Congress of undermining their new alliance by making a secret power-sharing deal with the white government.

The Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) accused the ANC of "deceit and duplicity" just two days before the two groups' first joint meeting with President de Klerk to prepare for talks on political reform.

The PAC said Nelson Mandela's group had ditched key elements of a plan for black majority rule agreed last month at the formation of a "Patriotic Front" aimed at boosting pressure for an end to 40 years of race segregation. "The ANC is without question guilty of deceit and duplicity," Benny Alexander, the PAC general secretary, said. His statement added that ANC leaders "are prepared to rule this country in alliance with the (ruling white) National party by decree for many years to come." ANC and government spokesmen declined to make immediate comment.

Diplomat's affair sparks spy scare

FROM GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

THE discreet world of South African diplomacy has been shaken by a sex and spy scandal, involving an adulterous envoy, a jealous Arab lover, and photographs of their liaison.

The affair came to light when the national intelligence service became suspicious of a relationship two years ago between an Arab diplomat and Lidia Bryant, a third secretary in the office of the South African ambassador to the United Nations in New York. The attractive 32-year-old university graduate had been regarded as a capable diplomat.

Mrs Bryant, whose husband at the time was vice-consul in Pretoria, was recalled to New York last year for consultations, but after denying improprieties she was allowed to return to her post. Apparently oblivious to surveillance by the intelligence service, she then passed state secrets to her lover.

At some point her passion cooled, prompting her jilted lover to send photo-

graphs of a revealing nature to her superiors in the foreign affairs department. Mrs Bryant was promptly suspended, and then dismissed last month. In the interim she divorced her husband, married a cousin to become Mrs van Heerden, and has since fled South Africa where police are anxious to question her about fraudulent cheques to the value of £16,000.

A foreign affairs official said her amorous activities had not compromised state security. She had divulged nothing of real interest, other than an impending visit to Hungary last year by Pik Botha, the foreign minister, which marked a breakthrough in relations with Eastern Europe.

Referring to the photographs taken in Mrs Bryant's flat in New York, the official said: "This is a sex story rather than a spy story. The man fell deeply in love with her and this was his revenge." The identity and nationality of her erstwhile lover has not been disclosed.



Sleeping on the job: members of the South Korean opposition snatch a nap during a delay in a parliamentary session yesterday

Japanese MPs at war over peacekeeping bill

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

UGLY scenes erupted yesterday in Japan's normally polite parliament when the ruling Liberal Democratic Party pushed through a passage of the controversial peace-keeping operations bill in a lower house committee. The move brings the nation one step closer to participating in United Nations peacekeeping operations and sending

members of its armed forces overseas for the first time since the second world war.

The opposition socialist and Communist parties are opposed to the bill on the grounds that it violates Japan's pacifist constitution. Already abandoned twice in the last year due to fiery opposition in the Diet, opposition members last night parted company with their dignity and launched themselves at the committee chairman.

Yoshiro Hayashi, to prevent him from announcing the vote or its passage.

LDP members, clearly reluctant to be left out of the action, threw themselves into the fray, scuffling to reach microphones. White-gloved policemen quickly surrounded the chairman, grabbed him round the waist and hoisted him to safety, where he hastily announced passage of the bill to bellowing roars from everyone. "This forced

vote is unspeakable. It is a shameful action and one that is an embarrassment for Japan in the eyes of the world," spluttered Sadao Yamahada, secretary-general of the opposition Democratic Socialist party. Koichi Kato, the LDP chief cabinet secretary, said: "It is a shame some members of the committee reacted as they did. Everyone has worked hard to get the bill approved."

Yesterday's Diet mayhem, was mild in comparison with Diet skirmishes of the past. In 1960, when the LDP had trouble passing the United States-Japan security pact legislation, it arranged for 500 policemen to enter the Diet building and forcibly eject all opposition politicians. The bill was passed, but with 90 casualties.

More excitement is expected as the bill will be put to the vote again today at the plenary session of the lower House.

Lagos holds census

FROM AFP IN LAGOS

PRESIDENT Babangida and Augustus Aikhomu, his deputy, were the first Nigerians to be counted here yesterday on the first day of a three-day national census.

The president, his wife, and two of their four children were counted at their official residence by Alhaji Shehu Musa, the chairman of the National Population Commission, who also counted members of Mr Aikhomu's family. Mr Aikhomu was optimistic that the exercise would be a success.

This is the fourth national head-count in Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, since it gained independence from Britain in 1960. Of the other exercises held in 1962, 1963 and 1973, only that of 1963 was accepted, although its result was contested up to the Supreme Court. The other two were cancelled because of malpractice.

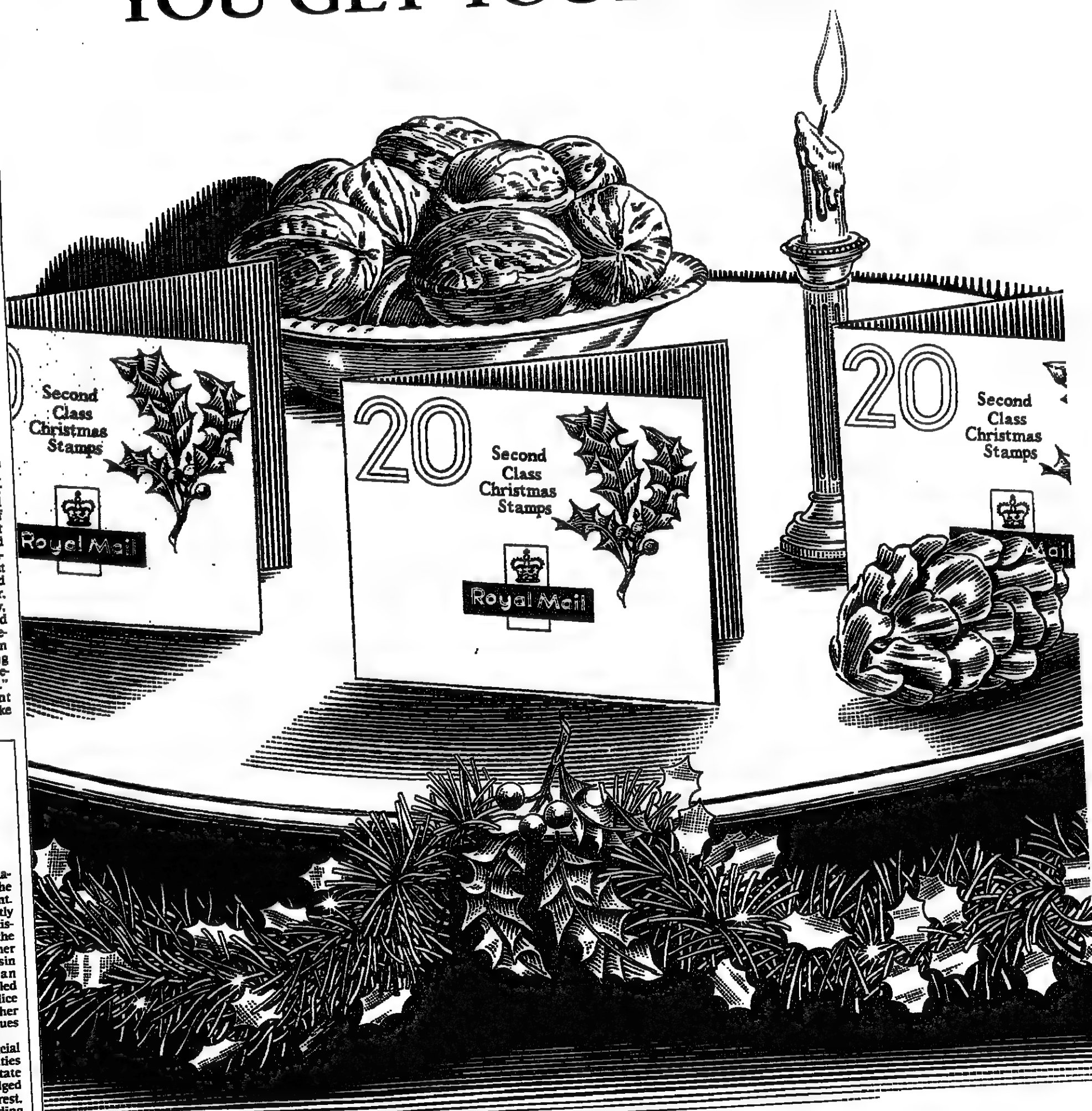
The present census is a cardinal step in General Babangida's transition programme returning the country to civilian rule. The military is due to hand power to civilians next year.

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Under threat: short-toed eagle of Eastern Europe

Birds in the red

Nick Nuttall looks at the wildlife winners and losers under years of communism

An attempt to save one of the world's rarest birds, the aquatic warbler, has highlighted growing international interest in the bird-life of former communist countries.

Poland, the European states of the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania and Hungary are home to 17 threatened species, including the imperial eagle, the sociable plover and little bustard.

The bird populations of these countries also include 132 species or sub-species threatened throughout all or part of their European range. These include the short-toed eagle, three-toed woodpecker, the moustached warbler and the rufous bush robin.

The years of communism have been a mixed blessing for the bird world. Although lack of development has left some habitats almost untouched, some species have been hit hard by the use of old-fashioned pesticides, the drainage of marsh and wetland and the use of national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty for hunting and recreation rather than for conservation.

At the same time, restrictions imposed by some of the former regimes meant that their scientists' information gathering was denied access to international research and conferences.

Examples of "winners" and "losers" in the bird world of Eastern Europe are the white stork, which has a population of 30,000 in Poland, compared with just 600 pairs in the former West Germany, and the slender-billed curlew, which breeds in the Soviet Union and is down in numbers to just a few hundred.

The attempt to save the aquatic warbler is being made by Polish ornithologists, with help from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the International Council for Bird Preservation in Britain. The aim is to gather accurate information on the numbers and habitat of the bird, a migratory visitor to Britain whose numbers have fallen sharply to 2,000 breeding pairs.

The relative poverty of the people and economies in the east have meant that bird conservation has never become very popular. Nevertheless, some areas including mountains, coastlines and ancient woodlands are un-

ouched by industrial development and pollution.

Interest in bird life is gaining ground in the east, especially among the young, with help from the west.

The main challenge for western bird protection groups is to help their counterparts in Eastern Europe assess habitats and numbers while lending experience in winning the support of governments and supranational bodies, such as the European Commission.

Some governments, particularly those that have applied for associate membership of the EC, seem keen to link economic and environmental reforms with western-style conservation measures.

Kevin Standing, senior conservation officer at the RSPB, said that in Poland, for example, proposals have been drafted to regulate tourism, reduce pollution, halt land-drainage schemes and back low-intensity agriculture in important bird areas.

The country possibly needs

ing the most help is Albania, still one of Europe's most closed societies. Relatively little is known about the country's bird-life.

Nicola Crocford, an expert with the Joint Nature Conservation Committee in Peterborough, and Bill Sutherland of the University of East Anglia, who visited Albania earlier this year in one of the first visits by a western ornithologist, found a disturbing situation.

For example, Albania's only professional ornithologist has retired from his post at the country's only university, in Tirana, and moved to Greece.

In addition, although laws protect birds such as the endangered pygmy cormorant and Dalmatian pelican from hunting and nest desecration, the reality can be very different.

Czechoslovak scientists who visited 32 pelican nests in the important Karavastus lagoon area found only seven eggs that had hatched. The others, Mr Crocford said, had either been pricked by local fishermen or were sterile, possibly because of pesticide poisoning.

Mr Standing said that despite growing popular support for conservation, experts have recognised that in many parts of Eastern Europe, balancing bird preservation with the livelihoods of poor rural communities is likely to be an uphill struggle.

Japan pays top TV price

THIS week a satellite started broadcasting high definition programmes to Japan for eight hours a day. However, as sets cost nearly £17,000 only 200 are believed to have been sold, and they were mostly to businesses such as hotels. Japan's HDTV programme have about 500 hours of viewing stored up, enough for about two months of broadcasting. Manufacturers hope to bring the price of sets down to about £4,000 within five years.

All spaced out

CASH-strapped Germany has become the backseat driver of the European space programme. At a meeting of the 13-nation European Space Agency last week Germany insisted that the Hermes space plane and the Columbus space laboratory should not be moved from the research into the development phase.

Island dump

THE Taiwanese and Chinese are to discuss a proposal to store nuclear waste on an island off China's south-eastern coast. Taiwanese companies need somewhere to dump their waste and China needs a new site to hold waste from its third nuclear power plant at Daya Bay, 30 miles from Hong Kong. The plan is scheduled to begin operations in mid-1993.

Smart pills

US researchers say they have developed a computer-controlled "smart pill" that can deliver drugs to a specific site in the gastrointestinal tract. The capsule contains a tiny radio transmitter which can communicate with a miniature computer worn by the patient in a belt or on a vest. When the capsule reaches the predetermined spot, the computer tells it to release the drug. Dr Jerome Schecterson of the State University of New York said that while it was known the smart pill worked in prototype tests, it needed to be done to see if this method of delivering medication helped patients. The researchers hope to begin tests on humans early next year.

Winning an undercover war

Professor Mansoor Sarhadi has built a machine that can manufacture men's underpants in a fraction of the time it takes to make a pair by hand.

The robot promises to help Europe's beleaguered underwear manufacturers, threatened for the past 20 years by cheap imports from the Far East and the Third World.

Millions of pairs of underpants are made in Britain every year, but production methods have changed little in the past 50 years, and it can still take more than five minutes to produce each pair.

A British professor has invented a robot to make men's pants

Most European manufacturers still have a largely manual production process, with up to six pieces of woven cotton passing through as many as 12 separate assembly stages. This makes labour the biggest part of the manufacturing cost.

A team of systems engineers at Brunel and Durham universities, led by Professor Sarhadi, has built a robot capable of manufacturing

underpants virtually untouched by human hand.

Building a better pair of underpants has been Professor Sarhadi's brief for several years. The project has been funded by Jockey UK, the Science and Engineering Research Council and the EC. The project has already cost more than £1 million.

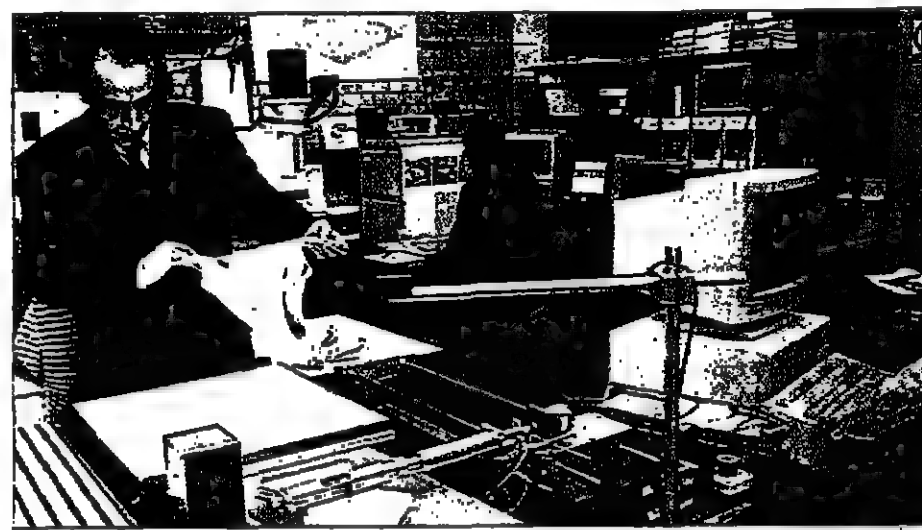
The money is well spent, according to Professor Sarhadi: "The only thing Euro-

pean manufacturers can do is improve their quality, which is precisely what our machine can guarantee."

Professor Sarhadi's machine incorporates an electronic system which can be fixed to a sewing machine to detect the quality of stitching. This is vital because some sewing machines are capable of 10,000 stitches a minute and one bad one means that the garment can fall apart.

Each machine will cost around £30,000, and should pay for itself within four years.

NIGEL BURNHAM



Worker of a manufacturing miracle: Mansoor Sarhadi

Court of Appeal

Law Report November 28 1991

Court of Appeal

Plea for more appeal judges

Annual Review 1990-1991
If delays in the hearing of appeals were to be reduced, serious and urgent consideration should be given to widening the requirement for leave to appeal, and to increasing the number of Court of Appeal judges.

Lord Donaldson of Lynton, Master of the Rolls, stated, sitting with Lord Justice McEwan and Lord Justice Nolan in the Court of Appeal on November 27 and handing down the Court of Appeal Civil Division review of the legal year.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the Court of Appeal existed solely to correct demonstrable errors and to develop and clarify the law. It did not exist to give disappointed litigants a second chance. In performing its task it had three major objectives:

1 (Which was paramount) To maintain the highest possible standards in its work in terms of professional skill. While it was not perhaps for a judge of the court to express a view as to the extent to which objective was achieved, his Lordship hoped and believed that it was.

2 To be ready to hear and determine any appeal or application somewhat sooner than the parties and their legal advisers were ready, thereby not only eliminating any court-induced delay, but also exerting pressure on litigants and the legal profession to speed up the processes of justice.

Realistically, the court's aim was to contain and, if possible, steadily reduce delays. Swimming strongly against the tide, marginal progress was being made - backwards. However, forward progress had been made in ensuring that the delays were experienced by those best able to endure them.

3 To reduce the burden of costs borne by litigants personally or as funded by legal aid while not unduly increasing the overhead costs borne by the state. Efforts had been continued to reduce the length of oral argument as time in court was very expensive for litigants.

Verbal economy was not something which came naturally to every advocate and its virtue, as well as the benefit which it conferred on all concerned in the litigation and in other matters waiting to be heard was unlikely to be appreciated by the client. The educational process was accordingly a little slow.

Delays and the critical equation
The critical equation was D1 - (B + C) - D2, where D1 was the number of appeals awaiting hearing at the beginning of the period, A was the number set down, B was the number disposed of after a hearing on the merits, C was the number disposed of without such a hearing and D2 was the number awaiting hearing at the end of the period.

If A - (B + C) was a positive figure the number of outstanding

appeals and the delays would have increased. If negative, they would have reduced.

Unfortunately, the figures showed that whereas in the period 1982-1986 the movement in the figure for outstanding appeals awaiting hearing at the beginning of each year was slightly downwards, it was now upwards despite a considerable increase in the number of Lord Justices and the introduction of streamlined procedures.

Nor had it been appreciated until comparatively recently that applications, although not as time-consuming as appeals, were almost as numerous and formed a significant part of the court's workload.

Variety of appeals
The variety of appeals before the Court of Appeal was greater in nature and weight than any other court including the House of Lords.

There was no convenient method of quantifying the complexity of an appeal yet that was a crucial factor in the court's ability to dispose of appeals rapidly. As a matter of impression there was no doubt that the weight of the average appeal was increasing.

Some indication of that came from the increased proportion of appeals in which reserved judgments were given. In 1985-1986 as opposed to 31.14 per cent in 1990-1991, that tended to confirm his Lordship's view that the work was becoming more difficult.

Lead times between institution of appeal and hearing

Cases involving children were rightly regarded as being in a priority category, so were immigration cases and those involving claims for possession of dwelling houses, and some immunities such as *Mareva*, restrictions on carrying on a business activity and on the divulging of confidential information. But other cases might have features requiring urgency.

The court had refined the ways in which relative urgencies were assessed and given effect to it in terms of listing for hearing. It had recently become apparent that there was a risk that appeals in a non-priority category with special features of urgency were being displaced for long periods by other more recently instituted urgent appeals.

That was unacceptable, and, borrowing from the expertise of the perishable food-stuffs industry, every appeal on being set down was now allotted ultimate "fix by" and "best by" dates.

Emergency appeals
The court had during the year maintained its resolve that every appeal should be determined before, due to lapse of time, it had become academic. Urgent appeals tended first to see the light of day on a Friday afternoon, sometimes after court hours.

His Lordship described how the court responded to that problem by hearing appeals but

emphasised that the emergency "call out" service was not available if the emergency was of the appellant's own making.

The picture which emerged was depressing and all concerned, the court, those practising in it and the Lord Chancellor and his department, had to consider what could be done to secure improvement. His Lordship referred to the judicial resources available: the 27 Lord Justices and the heads of the divisions who did not sit full time in the Court of Appeal and the retired Lord Justices.

There were, however, factors reducing the full strength of the court: at one time five might be expected to sit in the criminal division or the Divisional Court, that was increased where the criminal division was hearing references from the Home Secretary.

Others were engaged hearing enquiries of national importance and sickness was another factor. If lead times were not to continue to rise some small increase in the establishment of the Court of Appeal was clearly an option which had to be considered.

Leave to appeal
Another option was to improve the system for weeding out appeals which had no chance of succeeding and were instituted for tactical or emotional reasons. It was possible to identify appeals as being hopeless without hearing them in full. That could be demonstrated by the comparison between the success rates of appeals where leave was required and those where it was not.

Judicial review was in a special position, leave being required before the proceedings might be begun in the lower court. But such leave was often given *ex parte* and in ignorance of the full facts. If they had been known at that stage leave might not have been granted. Some further consideration was therefore essential of whether the applicant had an arguable case.

Where it could be demonstrated that the success rate for a particular type of appeal was markedly lower than the average success rate for appeals generally, for example, appeals against the grant of possession orders in landlord and tenant cases, there

was a particularly strong case for imposing a requirement of leave to appeal.

Parliament accepted the desirability of reconsidering and widening the categories of appeal in which leave was required. It enacted section 7 of the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990. His Lordship hoped that that process could be begun at the earliest possible moment. That was a matter for the Lord Chancellor and the Rule Committee.

Settlements were to be encouraged not only in the general interest but in those of the parties. The introduction of skeleton arguments had been one of the most successful reforms introduced in recent years, among other things in concentrating the minds of all concerned.

It had been hoped that the preparation of the skeletons would lead to earlier and solicitor-responsibility their clients' chances of success and that in some cases settlement might result at a time when some costs might be saved.

That did not appear to be happening and there were still doubts of the court's settlement and appeals which ended up for settlement being pursued because of the time of the hearing and the costs had been incurred and it was thought then to be too late.

It could not be too strongly emphasised that it was an important part of a lawyer's duty to seek to settle and to keep on seeking to do so. In many cases it was more in the client's interests than "winning".

It gave his Lordship no satisfaction to report on a year in which, despite the best endeavours of the judges and the legal and administrative court staff there had been no reduction in delays.

His Lordship had explained the nature of the problem and the limited extent to which the court had any power to take initiatives to improve the situation. He hoped that those who had the power would give serious and urgent consideration to what should be done and he said that it changed were not made the next year, it was likely to be considerably more gloomy than the present one.

Limit to immunity from suit
When allowing in part an appeal by Export Finance Co Ltd ("Exfinco") from an order of March 28, 1990 by Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, the other parties in the case being the Welsh Development Agency and Mr J.P. Considine and Mr H.G. Jones, the receivers appointed by the agency of property of Parrot Corporation Ltd charged by a debenture in the agency's favour.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that there was an allegation that, in going to overseas buyers of Parrot's goods asking them to

Service out of the jurisdiction

In re ERAS EIL Actions
Before Sir Donald Nicholls, Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Mustill and Lord Justice Nourse (Judgment November 21)

The test of a good arguable case which a plaintiff had to show under Order 11, rule 4(2) before a court would serve notice on a defendant out of the jurisdiction was not to be applied rigorously in complete isolation from all other aspects of the case.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment when dismissing appeals and cross-appeals, save in one part, brought by Clarksons, a UK broking group of companies, one of which was ERAS (International) Ltd; Howdens, a US group of companies acting as agents; Socie Commercial de Reassurance SA ("SCOR"), a French corporation; London Agency Inc ("LA") of Atlanta, Georgia and International Insurance Co Inc ("IIC") of Chicago, Illinois against the decisions of Mr Justice Waller on January 28, 1991 to grant leave to serve notices and writs out of the jurisdiction and to join the parties under certain claims in contract and/or tort and/or contribution in respect of the ERAS environmental impairment liability ("EIL") insurance devised by Clarksons to cover industrial concerns against liability for gradual environmental pollution.

Mr Nicholas Chambers, QC and Mr Mark V. Smith for Clarksons; Mr Samuel Stammer, QC and Gavin Kealey for Howdens; Mr Peter Leish-Jones, QC, Mr Clifford Gill and Mr Peter Gross for SCOR; Mr Edwin Glasgow, QC, Mr Mark Howard

and Mr Stuart Cuthpole for IIC and TLA.

LORD JUSTICE MUSTILL, giving the judgment of the court to which all three members had contributed, said that Order 11, rule 4(2) imposed a three-fold duty upon the plaintiff seeking leave to serve a defendant out of the jurisdiction.

The court had to be satisfied by the plaintiff that there was a good arguable claim on the merits, that there was a strong possibility that the claim fell within the subparagraphs of Order 11, rule 1(1) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 and that England was the forum in which the case should most suitably be tried in the interests of all the parties and for the ends of justice.

Although the traditional three-stage enquiry was convenient for the purpose of analysis it should not be allowed to disguise the fact that the stages were linked. The question of "good arguable case", mystifying to a foreigner, conveyed an impression with which the English lawyer was familiar but it would not yield to dissection and any enquiry on such a basis was unprofitable.

The impression of the test reinforced the opinion that the grant of leave under Order 11 should be looked at in the round and was not to be over-analysed.

There should be no attempt to define what standard should be applied to dependent claims for there would be a risk of creating a formula which would be applied by rote to situations where it would be inappropriate.

However, for a statement of the bare minimum, a useful precedent could be found in Order 11, rule 4(1)(b) which

required that where A had served B within the jurisdiction and an application was made to serve C under rule 1(1)(b), the affidavit leading the application had to state the deponent's belief that there was between A and B "a real issue which the plaintiff may reasonably ask the court to try".

Leave to serve notice on any third party outside the jurisdiction under rule 34(1) might be granted where that party was a "necessary or proper party to the proceedings brought by the defendant".

But that was a reference to the action or other proceedings brought by the plaintiff and it encompassed a wide and elastic class of persons who could be identified, in general terms, by looking at Order 15, rule 6(2)(b).

The class of necessary or proper parties to an action included persons who ought to have been joined by the plaintiff as a co-defendant or a co-plaintiff or whose presence before the court was otherwise necessary or proper.

The words were simply wide enough to include a case where, for instance, a defendant was seeking relief, such as an indemnity, from a non-party in respect of the plaintiff's claims in the action.

Depending on the particular facts, that might be a question or issue arising out of or connected with the relief claimed by the plaintiff in his action. If it was, then the court had to decide whether it would be justifiable and convenient to determine that question or issue between the defendant and the non-party as well as between the plaintiff and the defendant.

The court would order the

joinder or not of the non-party, depending on what was the just and convenient course. In many cases the convenient course would be to leave the claim to be tried as the subject of a third-party action.

But although that might be the normal course to take, it was not the only course. Depending on the circumstances, such a person might properly be joined, on the defendant's application, as an additional defendant in the action. He would be a proper party to the action.

The principle established in *Parsons v Schuller and Another* (1991) 17 TLR 299 that where leave to serve out was obtained in respect of a claim based on one cause of action it could not be treated as leave in respect of a claim based on some other cause of action.

Consequently, as a cause of action, based allegedly on an oral contract, had not been included in the writ, service of that writ would be set aside so far as it related to the claim based on that oral contract and an appeal to that extent would in part succeed.

However, jurisdiction did exist in the present case for the court to give leave to serve out of the jurisdiction, and although there were sufficient differences in the Court of Appeal's assessment of the claims to justify a reappraisal of the judge's conclusion, there had been no error in law nor mistake nor was there a judge's decision wrong and the Court of Appeal would not therefore intervene in his exercise of discretion.

Solicitors: Simmons & Simmons; Freshfields; Lovell White Durrant; Baker & McKenzie.

Setting aside leave for judicial review

Regina v Bromsgrove District Council, Ex parte Kennedy
Before Mr Justice Popplewell (Judgment November 21)

While the High Court did have jurisdiction to set aside leave for judicial review which had been granted by a single judge on an *ex parte* application, such applications to set aside should be made only in exceptional cases.

Mr Justice Popplewell so held in the Queen's Bench Division when allowing the application by the respondent, Bromsgrove District Council, to set aside leave to apply for judicial review granted on Mrs Linda Kennedy's written application *ex parte* by Mr Justice Henry on May 25, 1991.

On June 24, the council applied to set aside that leave on three grounds: (i) material non-disclosure by the applicant, (ii) the applicant had no sensible prospect of success: (iii) the application had not been made promptly within the three months.

Mr John Randall for the council; Mr Barry Payton for Mrs Kennedy.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that there was no doubt that the court had jurisdiction to set aside leave granted by a single judge *ex parte*: see *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Harbidge* (No 2) (1987) 1 QB 1077.

For the benefit of the pro-

cedure, however, his Lordship wished to make some observations as there appeared to be a growth industry in that there were many applications in the Crown Office list.

It might be that those acting for respondents thought that this was an easy way to have their cases dealt with ahead of others.

There were numerous authorities, including those of the Court of Appeal, where it had been held that an application to set aside for leave was to be made only in exceptional cases: see *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Nazir Chinyo* (The Times April 16, 1991).

Before a case came to court, the practice in the Crown Office was, as in this case, that a bundle of documents was given to the single judge to consider the application on paper. That was very time consuming, exhausting and required a great deal of diligence by the single judge.

It was true that if the single judge refused leave that the

application could be renewed in open court. Whether to grant or refuse leave was a serious problem for the single judge on an *ex parte* application who had only the applicant's papers.

It was abundantly clear from common sense and previous authorities that matters put before the judge in *ex parte* applications should not, in any way, mislead, deliberately or innocently. Full details should be put before him.

Omissions were as bad as something that turned out to be untrue. The judge relied on the affidavits and the grounds stated in deciding whether to grant leave.

Solicitors: Pinsten & Co, Birmingham; Varley Hibbs & Co, Leamington Spa.

Correction

In *The Observer* and *The Guardian* v UK and *The Sunday Times* v UK (No 2) (The Times November 27), the reference to M16 should have been M15.

Are you fit to live longer?

Can the right diet and lifestyle prevent life-threatening diseases? Ann Kent reports on the latest advice

Every other man, and one woman in three will not survive to celebrate their 75th birthday. These deaths — about 240,000 per year in England and Wales — are often preventable, according to reports and statements issued by medical experts this week.

On Monday the Health Education Authority launched *The Smoking Epidemic — Counting the Cost*. On Tuesday the Imperial Cancer Research Fund announced the launch of a massive European study into the links between cancer and diet. On the same day the Royal College of Physicians published a 212-page report, *Preventive Medicine*; yesterday, the *British Medical Journal* produced its own detailed description of how the government's plans to improve the nation's health might be modified.

Health education has changed in the past decade. The latest advice puts much greater emphasis on vitamins and exercise — influences which were regarded as marginal in the 1980s. Another relatively new finding is that the elderly can extend their lives by improving their diet, taking a daily walk and giving up smoking.

According to government statistics, a man who is 60 now can expect another 14 years of life and a woman another 17 years. At 80 they can expect six and eight more years respectively. Research suggests that people who live into their eighties do not spend more years dependent on others than those who die in their sixties and seventies. Many of the infirmities of old age are now believed to be potentially avoidable.

However, the experts admit that they can pronounce on disease prevention until laryngitis sets in, but people will not follow their advice if the result is more years of being confined to a bed or wheelchair.

As Professor Desmond Julian, a co-author of *Preventive Medicine*, says, remaining healthy has to be part of the longevity package. So what is the latest thinking on how

to live as long as possible in the best possible health?

DIET

THE most controversial area of preventive medicine. Everyone can potentially modify their diet, and fortunes in the food and food supplements industries hang on what the public chooses to believe about diet and health.

These days, health educators are keen to promote what people should eat, rather than avoid, and a growing body of research suggests that diet can help prevent cancer (experts in disease patterns believe that about 35 per cent of all cancer deaths are caused by poor diet), heart disease, diabetes and a number of other chronic ailments. But the evidence is inconclusive, and a dietary study involving seven European countries will begin next year in an attempt to provide evidence. Present knowledge suggests that the kind of diets which help avoid heart disease may also help protect against cancer. Such diets include plenty of fish, fruit, fresh vegetables and complex carbohydrates, including oats and beans, and are low in saturated (animal) fats.

Arguments continue over the rival merits of polyunsaturated versus saturated fats, but there is a general consensus that most people need to reduce the total fat content they eat.

Hunger should be satisfied with starchy carbohydrate foods, rather than foods high in fats or sugar. Some experts believe anti-oxidant vitamins — C, E and beta-carotene — play an important part in the prevention of cancer and heart disease.

Prevention of cardiovascular disease may begin in the womb. Professor David Barker of the University of Southampton believes that poor nutrition in the womb and in the earliest years of life "primes" a child to develop such diseases. Some of his findings suggest the adverse effect of this

bad start are more important than anything which happens later.

Being mildly overweight does not seem to be associated with early death, although some research suggests such people are likely to be ill more often than those of normal weight.

The more overweight the individual the higher the risks of strokes, non-insulin dependent diabetes, gall stones, respiratory disorders, arthritis, hypertension and cancer of the gall bladder and endometrium (womb lining).

Women have lower levels of an alcohol-destroying enzyme, which means they get drunk on less. Women alcoholics are more susceptible than men to cirrhosis. The standard medical advice on low risk drinking suggests that women should drink no more than 14 units of alcohol a week and men no more than 21 — including some drink-free days. A unit of alcohol is half a pint of beer, a small glass of sherry or wine, or a single measure of spirits.

It is considered dangerous for men persistently to drink more than 50 units a week, or for women to drink more than 35.

The Royal College of Physicians believes that all alcoholic drinks should be marked with their alcohol contents, and should also carry a health warning.

WOMEN

MOST illness prevention advice applies to both sexes, but *Preventive Medicine* highlights two additional areas:

Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) greatly reduces a woman's risk of contracting osteoporosis, the bone-thinning disease, but may increase her chances of developing breast cancer. However, the cancer risk is much smaller, and less well established than the osteoporosis risk.

Women have less muscle bulk than men, which may explain why elderly women spend longer periods as dependents than men. Some believe women should be at



least as physically active as men all through life to compensate.

SMOKING

PEOPLE who smoke are now more often described by health educators in terms of "dependence" and "addiction". Many people succeed in giving up and the number of adult smokers has been declining for many years. However, 30 per cent of 19-year-

olds are smokers. Experts in disease patterns believe that about 30 per cent of all cancer deaths are caused by smoking.

About 111,000 people a year (300 a day) die from smoking-related causes — cancers, heart disease, stroke and lung diseases.

A male smoker runs double the risk of dying before the age of 65 than a non-smoker. A woman smoker has a 70 per cent increased risk.

A 35-year-old man who smokes

can expect to die seven years earlier than a non-smoker; a woman smoker five years earlier. The authors of *Preventive Medicine* call for a ban on all tobacco promotion, and suggest that health professionals should counsel smokers during consultations.

EXERCISE

AN impressive body of evidence suggests that regular physical

exercise protects against coronary heart disease.

Cycling and swimming are particularly recommended by the Royal College of Physicians, which says workplaces should provide time and facilities for these activities.

Lack of exercise is also associated with obesity, osteoporosis in women and reduced muscle strength and bulk in the elderly. It may also lead to impaired co-ordination in old people.

Strangers to themselves

A WOMAN so successfully concealed her 11-year-old son from the authorities in a suburban house that his existence was only discovered after detectives, making routine enquiries, noticed the squalor of the surroundings. The boy's only companions, other than his mother, were a menagerie of animals. Interim medical reports suggest that neither the boy nor his mother are suffering from any psychiatric illness.

The possible causes of reclusive bizarre behaviour are legion, and it is impossible to comment on any particular case without a lengthy and detailed assessment. However, many people who show distinct oddities of behaviour and an inability to meet the normal demands of society, or if, when meeting them, show an unexpected social response, may be suffering from schizophrenia.

Schizophrenics are usually, but not



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford

always, isolated people who become more and more detached from their friends and family. They find it hard to express the emotions they feel. Too often, schizophrenics feel that they are unusual, and that the rest of the world stares and comments unfavourably on them. Given these delusions they — quite rationally in the circumstances — hide themselves and may be very angry and upset if forced out of their lair.

Sometimes rejecting, and in their

view rejected by, human society, they resort to the animal kingdom for companionship. If they go out voluntarily it may well be to take walks after dark, or when no one is about, and they frequently try to conceal themselves, like an ostrich burying its head in the sand, by wearing long black clothes and dark glasses.

Treatment for schizophrenia is constantly improving, but it can be difficult to persuade patients, who may well be suspicious, to take it despite the accepted wisdom that the better they start on drug therapy, the better the outlook. This applies as much to those with negative symptoms — the withdrawn, with their flattened emotions and inert physical behaviour — as to those whose behaviour is aggressive or destructive.

Contrary to what one might assume, it is often the negative features which are most persistent and socially disabling.

Swimming into trouble

SWIMMING is one of the best physical exercises, but in the final analysis, the pool is no more than a giant edition of the footballer's changing room communal bath.

There is a difference, though: most people give up drinking bath water once they have left toddlerhood, and stopped sucking their sponge, but swimming pool water, contaminated by others, is swallowed by the pint. It is easily polluted; other bathers' personal hygiene may be questionable, they may have infected boils and spots, sore throats, discharging noses and genital infections. Water stimulates urination, and exercise exposes any incontinence.

Any of these polluting organisms would, if left untreated, cause infected skin, ears and eyes, as well as diarrhoeal illnesses and sore throats. Hygiene problems are overcome by effective filtration and disinfection, but this week the Pool Water Advisory Group made a plea for their task to be eased. Bacteria, it seems, flourish in warm water. If only the temperature was lowered by a few degrees, costs of heating and disinfection would be substantially lessened.



Sweet balm for stomachs

PEPTIC ulceration — it was an ulcer which blighted Tom Sutherland's return from captivity as a hostage in Beirut — is a well-recognised complication for those confronted by exciting food after years of deprivation and a monotonous, inadequate diet.

Perhaps all would have been well if Dr Sutherland's transition from prison fare to 20th-century menus had been eased with honey. This week Peter Nolan, a biochemist at Waikato University in Auckland, announced that New Zealand honey will eliminate *Helicobacter pylori*, the stomach bacteria which are associated with peptic ulcers, which can either be gastric or duodenal.

The anti-bacterial properties of honey — New Zealand or Norfolk — have been utilised in medicine before. 50 years ago Mr Michael Bulman, a Norwich consultant obstetrician, would spread honey on episiotomy wounds to prevent infection after childbirth.

The exact role of the bacteria *H. pylori* in peptic ulceration is un-

decided. But an analysis in *Mimes*, the medical magazine, two Manchester gastroenterologists — Dr John Duffy and Dr Paul Miller — addressed the question as to whether *H. pylori* is the villain which causes the ulceration, or merely an innocent bystander hanging around at the scene of the crime.

Although the organism is only present in the stomachs of a minority of healthy individuals, it can be demonstrated in 90 per cent to 100 per cent of patients with duodenal ulcers, and 70 per cent to 80 per cent of those with gastric ulcers. For those who doubt the efficacy of honey, eradicating the bacteria is undertaken with "triple treatment" — a two-week course of antibiotics, either amoxycillin or tetracycline, metronidazole (Flagyl) and a bismuth preparation, and then, De-Nol.

This treatment, which clears many cases of resistant or recurrent duodenal ulceration, should be reserved for patients with this troublesome problem.

Gastric ulcers, oesophagitis, non-ulcer indigestion, and many simple duodenal ulcers should be treated traditionally with Zantac, Tagamet or Losec. Triple treatment is not appropriate for patients with ulcers due to anti-thrombotic treatment.

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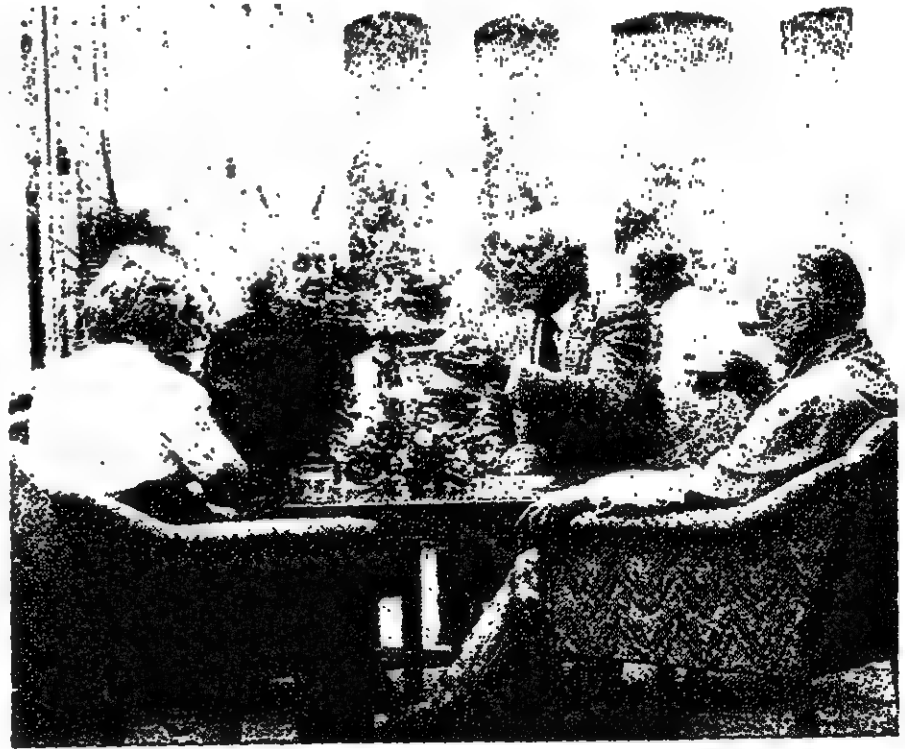
CARE FOR THE ELDERLY "ILLOGICAL AND UNJUST"

A leading geriatric specialist has challenged the Government's Green Paper "The Health of the Nation" on its attitude towards the elderly.

Lack of understanding about human ageing and ignorance of the potential for improvements in the health of older people were the main criticisms by Professor John Grimley Evans, a leading specialist in Geriatric Medicine and a Fellow of Green College Oxford.

Giving the 5th Bayliss annual lecture sponsored by PPP (Private Patients Plan) in London on November 13th, he said that the diversion of "the elderly" into health services separate from those for other adult ages had no scientific logic and had seriously impeded research and logical thought about ageing.

"It is astonishing that the Green Paper has totally failed to address the biggest challenge facing our health services over the next 20 years," said Professor Grimley Evans. "Although the expectation of life at birth is now firmly into the 70s for both men and women in Britain, the Green Paper defined 'premature' death as that occurring before aged 65. This definition dates from days when people were only valued for their potential value as exploitable labour to the State. The paper acknowledged that strokes occur to people aged up to the age of 75, but considered rehabilitation only up to aged 65."



"We do not have to accept the present pattern of disease and disability in old age as inevitable", said Professor Grimley Evans

Professor Grimley Evans said that the paper implied that prevention of illness in adult life would merely postpone it to old age where "the burden would finally fall".

"This fatalistic philosophy can only lead to ignoring later life as an area for improvement of health," he said.

Contrary to long held opinions, therapeutic and lifestyle interventions for preventing and treating ill health, particularly cardiovascular ill health, continued to be effective into old age. So did control of high blood pressure at least up to the age of 80, reducing the risk of a stroke. Giving up cigarettes in old age rapidly reduced

the risk of heart attacks even in people with established coronary heart disease. Modification of blood cholesterol levels could be beneficial in old as well as middle-aged people.

Therapy following heart attacks was at least as effective in saving the lives of older patients as of young.

Recent population studies in the United States showed that the longer an older person survived in a fit state, the shorter on average would be the period of any disablement he or she would ultimately have to endure and someone to pay for.

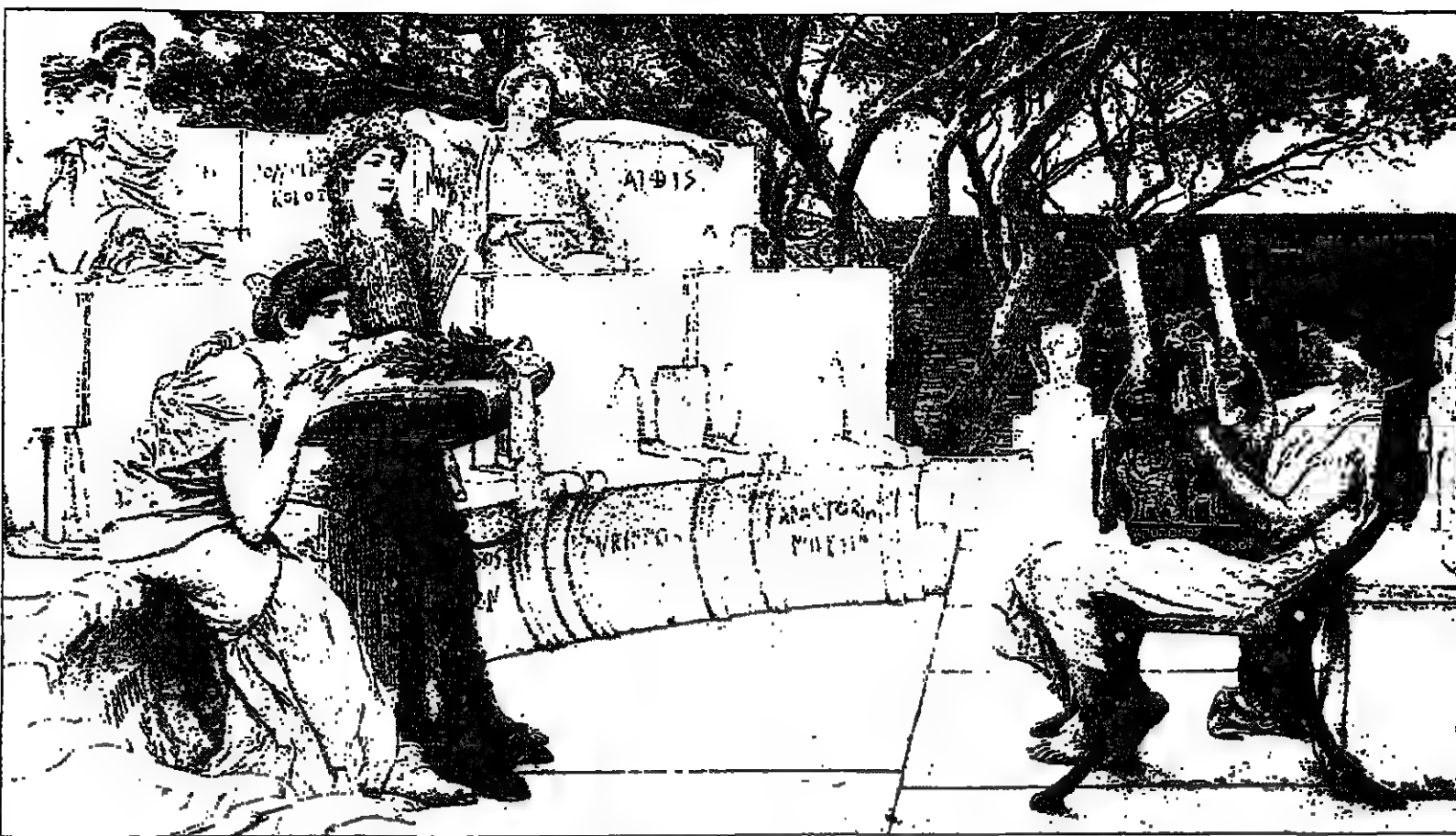
The Professor continued that the conclusion implied in the Green Paper that prevention of illness in

later life would increase costs and merely delayed dependency without diminishing it, was groundless.

"We do not have to accept the present pattern of disease and disability in old age as inevitable. Indeed, the health of older people would be an ideal choice for one of the key areas to be designated in the legislation to follow the Green Paper."

Professor Grimley Evans went on to say that the body begins to age at around 12 or 13 and is continuous throughout adult life. There was no discontinuity to justify the separation of "the elderly" from the rest of the human race at any age later than the early teens.

Classic Victorian values



Sappho and Alcaeus, by Alma-Tadema, transforming sex into high drama. Sappho listens enchanted to her chum reciting to the kithara

Among sophisticated people it is often assumed that "historical" fiction (historical drama is for some reason generally excepted) are an irrelevance, a diversion from the pressing consideration of current reality, a cop-out from the business of interpreting modern life. This is nonsense: "historical" works often have a more direct communication with the life of their period, and more faithfully evoke it, than any work of mere contemporary reference. It would be fair to say that the classical paintings of Frederic Leighton, for example, tell us much more about the Victorian sensibility — about the Victorian spirit — than any work by the apparently realistic and up-to-date William Frith.

This is in fact the theme of Jenkins's book which, subtitled "Victorian art and the classical inheritance", is concerned with 19th-century obsession. The culture of ancient Greece was everywhere — in the buildings, in the books, in the furniture, in the wallpaper, and even in the advertisements. In one poster for Becham's Patent Pills, two Hellenic ladies clasp hands in a tableau of Health-Crowning Beauty. There was very little of either beauty or health in most 19th-century cities, but although it is generally taken for granted that the great Victorian contribution to our urban architecture resides in the neo-Gothic, Jenkins makes the perfectly just and persuasive point that the "basic vernacular of Victorian London is a kind of debased classical".

How did it happen? Or,

Peter Ackroyd on a brilliant book about the Victorian sensibility to the Greeks, and ours to the Victorians

DIGNITY AND DECADENCE
By Richard Jenkins
HarperCollins, £30



Graeco-Victorian Richard Jenkins

more generally, why is it that one age becomes vigorously attached to the life and art of a remote period? It must have something to do with a sense of appropriateness, or at least a need for appropriation — Greek civilisation offered the single most convincing aspiration for the public representatives of the period, whether in the shape of businessmen, politicians or architects. To use a not very Victorian expression, it cleaned up their act. But there is a more precise aspect to this pursuit of the past and, as Jenkins suggests, "The remoteness of Hellas from the modern world becomes an abiding theme in Victorian art and thought." It was remote, too, from the Victorians' fear of what they had become: to revive the Greeks was in a sense to revive an innocent adolescence spent in unseen translation and verification. In the reverence for a classical past there is also reverence and nostalgia for a golden childhood before the strict and struggle of the real world.

Jenkins has a different beginning, however, and his book opens with an account of those Greek revivals of the early 19th century who wielded the Doric order with a suitably ribald frenzy. The battle was always between Greek and Gothic architecture —

revivalism reflected the "arrogance and diffidence" of a whole civilisation.

This is very much a cultural history, therefore, but one that re-examines all the conventional assumptions about that culture — the author points out, for example, that the respectable Victorians were not respectable at all, and that in their use of classical motifs and images they transformed sex into "high drama". It was in many unexpected respects "an age of liberation".

Jenkins is also very good on the importance of sculpture in the first decades of the century, at a time when John Flaxman had a European reputation and significance that no other English sculptor (with the possible exception of Moore) can equal. He is now almost forgotten but, even though sculpture has become the invisible art of the last century, Jenkins reassures here its central importance — now, in those smooth marmoreal lines, Victorian artists gave pale but permanent form to the longings and aspirations of their period.

Here is a cultural historian who is not afraid of travelling from Bristol to Dickens by way of the Bank of England, from Lawrence Alma-Tadema to Isambard Kingdom Brunel, from *Iolanthe* to funeral

monuments. He is in search of that most elusive entity, the spirit of an age, and in the moment of discovery it is in Graeco dress — Jenkins finds the shape of that remote culture in the appearance of a row of terraced houses no less than in the complexities of Ruskin's prose.

Of course it was not necessarily an unimpeded progress. The vogue for genre painting, and the temporary passion for anecdote or story, seemed to have quite displaced the grand neo-classicism of the 18th century, yet Hellenism came back; it came back because it was indeed part of the very fabric of the period. That is why Leighton's paintings are rather more interesting than those of Frith: his is a greater and more complex art because it deals with all the divided strands of the Victorian psyche.

Leighton in turn may fairly be said to lead to that late flowering of Victorian taste in the aesthetic movement, when Hellenism itself seems stunned beneath the weight of scented hot-house flowers: this was the Hellenism of Walter Pater and of homo-erotic fantasy, but it also represented a wilful and wounded blending of styles in which Greek and Gothic alike escaped the hard certainties of a Flaxman or a Pugin and came together at last. It is perhaps a form of decadence, an aspect of *fin-de-siècle*. And so the Greeks triumphed in the end. One last question remains: if the Victorians relied upon the Greeks, whom do we in turn rely upon? At the conclusion of his fascinating and instructive book, Jenkins suggests that we have come to depend upon the Victorians.

Death from maths

HORROR

Anne Billson

THE COUNT OF ELEVEN

By Ramsey Campbell
Macdonald, £13.95

Jack Orchard is an average sort of family man, apart from an obsessive tendency to invest numbers with an almost mystical significance. But his life is disrupted by a streak of bad luck, beginning with a fire that destroys his video rental store. In desperation, he digs out a previously ignored chain letter and sends copies to 13 complete strangers, thus launching himself onto a seasaw of good and bad fortune.

When obsession turns to murder, the chills stem not so much from what Jack does, as from the wiggly but alarmingly logical thought processes which have driven him there. Campbell's portrayal of a man turning into a monster is deft, compassionate and full of inky black humour. *If Silence of the Lambs* and *American Psycho* hold the modern serial killer up for inspection, *The Count of Eleven* takes us right inside his head. Unmissable.

Jago, by Kim Newman (Simon & Schuster, £14.99). Newman's third novel, with its chunky multiple-viewpoint and cast of thousands, is more of a conventional blockbuster than the first two, but the

author's ability to sustain a fever-pitch pace, and his familiarity with the wilder shores of pop culture, make for a roaring good read, as a broad cross-section of British society erupts into an orgy of irrational violence and sexual anarchy. The setting is the Somerset village of Alder, historically a hotbed of weird phenomena, and currently home to the Reverend Anthony Jago — a man of awesome paranormal powers — and the glassy-eyed minions of his personal peace-and-love cult, among whose ranks are saluted away a couple of observers from a wary British Intelligence.

The local population of rural types as from *Straw Dogs* is further supplemented by the punks, goths and hippies flocking in for the annual rock festival. As Alder's weird past reasserts itself, a visiting bookworm writing a thesis about the end of the world, sees Armageddon taking shape before his very eyes.

Needful Things, by Stephen King (Hodder & Stoughton, £15.99). King's latest is another example of the destruction of a smalltown community — here it's Castle Rock, a location familiar from several other King stories. But while *Jago* is an old formula reworked by a fresh new eye, *Needful Things* plods over *déjà vu* territory. King has done it before, and done it better, in *Salem's Lot* and *The Tommyknockers*.

Needful Things is the name of a new shop on Main Street: its proprietor is a sinister, Mephistophelean figure, who provides each customer with what he or she desires most in the world, whether a baseball card or a cure for chronic arthritis. Of course, there is a price to be paid, and in the paying of it the town duly gets trashed. King writes with his customary verve, but the parade of citizens trooping in and out of the shop before coming to a suitably sticky end becomes a tad repetitive, and the showdown between Good and Evil is a 1-0-n-g time coming.

Darklands, edited by Nicholas Royle (Egerton Press, £3.50 p & p from 5 Windsor Court, 24 Avenue Road, London N15 5JQ). All the pros and cons of contemporary horror fiction are distilled in this slim but valuable volume. The pros are short stories — by established writers such as Stephen Gallagher and Derek Marlowe, and by interesting newcomers such as Julie Ahrst and Michael Marshall Smith — which do not slot easily into any pigeonhole, except that they are all extremely disturbing. That's the downside as well, because the big publishers have shied away from an anthology to which they can't attach a label, and the intrepid editor has been forced to publish it himself. He deserves support, for this is an excellent collection. Smith's story, in particular, is a *tour de force*.

Patric Dickinson, about the same age but far less famous, appears not to write Parnassian at all, or not to publish it (which would be better still). His *Not Hereafter* (The Mansell Press, £3 plus 50p postage) is an elegant tall booklet, 19 poems with not a dud among them, all characterised by a confusion-cancelling seriousness which sounds inspired. I quote *Total Eclipse of the Moon* since it is short enough to give in full:

The shadow of our Earth
Is brown as a nightingale
Sleeping of seed and birth
No man can unforget.

A moving observation, but something more because of the unanticipated magic which rhymes *nightingale* and *unforget*, and puts *human-kind* in place by doing so. Dickinson has never been a poetic show-off. His verse is clean, unobtrusive, and quietly original.

Not even his most rhetoric-boasted fans would claim the same for Yevgeny Yevtushenko. Twenty-five distinguished translators, including John Updike and the Poet Laureate, do their best to English this noisy Russian's *Collected Poems 1952-1990*, edited by Albert C. Todd with the author and James Ragan (Mainstream, £18). Yevtushenko went on record long ago as resenting being discussed as a political personality, and these versions certainly justify that resentment by establishing him as a vigorous artist of the hit-or-miss school.

Going for Parnassus

HENRY Reed is the chap who sent up Eliot something rotten with his parody, *Chard Whitlow*:

As we get older we do not
get any younger.
Seasons return, and today I
am fifty-five.
And this time last year I
was fifty-four.
And this time next year I
shall be sixty-two...

Reed's other claim to fame is *Naming of Parts*, a poem that plays off military gun terminology against the activity of birds and bees and blossoms in a conceit spring. Amazingly sly, this has, like the Eliot guying, a deft dab of camp about it, and it comes as no surprise to learn from Jon Stallworthy's introduction to the *Collected Poems* that Reed was homosexual. Is it the evasion of this matter that makes the rest of his work so cleverly heartless? Or was Reed one of those bright unfortunates who only get identity by mocking others? An anthology of loose ends would seem to me a fair description of his serious "original" work collected here, while that joke about Eliot may be immortal.

The Eliot parody by Reed is of course specifically the *Eliot of Four Quarters*, which is to say Eliot at his most Parnassian. I borrow that useful term from a critical distinction in one of Gerard Manley Hopkins's letters, where he divides verse into two kinds, the inspired and the Parnassian. The Parnassian, Hopkins says, can be

Robert Nye

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REED

Edited and introduced by
Jon Stallworthy
Oxford University Press, £20

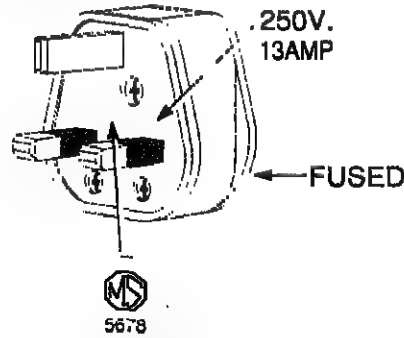
written only by real poets, but it is not in the highest sense poetry, being "spoken on and from the level of a poet's mind, not, as in the other case, when the inspiration, which is the gift of genius, raises him above himself". Parnassian, in other words, is what a poet writes when he tries to write a poem. The inspired poem comes at its own will.

Now John Heath-Stubbs strikes me as very much the complete Parnassian in his *Selected Poems* (Carcanet, £5.95), not least because he chooses to exclude from it that singular epitaph for himself which other readers will recognise as the man inspired: *Mr Heath-Stubbs as you must understand/ Came of a gentleman's family out of Staffordshire/ Of as good blood as any in England/ But he was wall-eyed and his legs too spare*. This has been left out, no doubt, because it is too popular, but then the popular taste is not always wrong, and little of Heath-Stubbs, a classically-minded but romantic-spirited poet, seems as good.

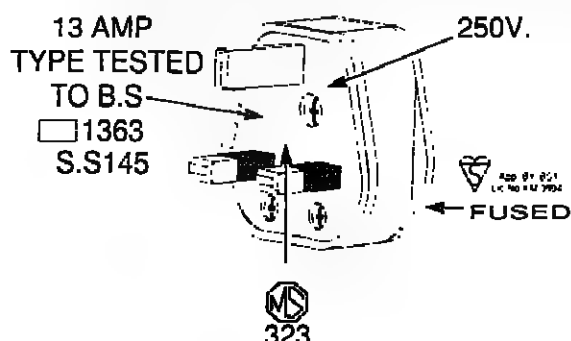
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Metroland with love

AT LAST a truly eclectic architectural guide. Even the great Pevsner was partial, in his case to abstract Modernism and against post-Edwardian revivalism. Bridget Cherry's taste is one of unrestrained tolerance. And nowhere is tolerance more needed, or more rewarded,

than in *London 3: North West*. A greatly extended edition of Pevsner's *Middlesex* and other London volumes, the latest in the Penguin Buildings of England series is a masterpiece of modern topography.

The revision of Pevsner's early work in London is not easy. Boundaries have changed, buildings have vanished, and a huge amount of new architecture has appeared. Already, the cities of London and Westminster and London south of the Thames have met the challenge. This third volume (to be followed by the North East) sets a new standard in thoroughness and scholarship.

Kensington and Chelsea, Regent's Park, Chiswick and Syon come easily. The coverage given their palaces, museums and monuments is workmanlike. Pevsnerian and familiar. Where Cherry comes into her own is in the outer reaches, in Hounslow and Brent, Hillingdon and Ealing. Here the old Pevsner concept of a "perambulation" takes on novel adventure. There are 13

Simon
Jenkins

THE BUILDINGS
OF ENGLAND
London 3:
North West
By Bridget
Cherry and
Nikolaus
Pevsner
Penguin, £25

index references to the North Circular Road: at the junction with the M1, "elegantly curving slabs of tinted glass 1973-5 by R. Seifert and Partners, see also Neasden". Boxing the compass round Heathrow embraces the glorious tithe barn at Harmondsworth, the friendly little church of Cranford, the Norman doorway at Harlington, and the medieval wall paintings of East Bedford.

Neasden is defended against *Private Eye*: "very modest sets of railway workers' cottages" just one window wide, though the best it can offer is The Grange local museum "unhappily stranded on a roundabout just south of the North Circular". The jewels of inter-war commercial architecture, the Hoover and Pyrene factories, are lovingly and closely described.

Best of all is Cherry's careful charting of the pattern of 20th-century development, as speculative builders spread out from the villages of Harrow and Pinner, Isleworth and Uxbridge to carpet Middlesex in suburbia.

Much of this was as good as anything the garden city movement produced in Hertfordshire and elsewhere: Metroland acting as worthy successor to the grand estates of North Kensington and Brompton (also in this volume). A splendid book.

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CINEMA: NEW RELEASES

Fine cast breaks the mould

Geoff Brown reviews a BBC Television co-production, *Enchanted April*, plus *Proof*, *Hot Shots!*, *The Indian Runner*, *Iron Maze* and *Omen IV: The Awakening*

A delicious period comedy about the English abroad, *Enchanted April* (U. Curzon West End), plays like a low-budget, bantamweight Merchant-Ivory production. Wan colour and some cramped compositions indicate the film's origins and eventual home, that is BBC Television, which after some years of inertia has finally picked up the torch first lit by Channel Four and moved into film co-production.

For its travels the BBC gets some well-publicised product that, in theory, generates money and prestige (*Truly Madly Deeply* became a particular cult hit in the States); while the cinemagoers get more British films than they otherwise would, though their visual quality may seem more appropriate to fireside viewing. In this case, at least, superlative playing and witty material make for perfectly civilised big-screen entertainment.

The storyline of Peter Barnes's script, plus many of the best lines, stem from a novel of 1922 by the intriguing Elizabeth von Arnim, cousin of Katharine Mansfield, and author of *Elizabeth and her German Garden*. Two Hampstead wives (Miranda Richardson, Josie Lawrence) try to escape their dull existence — as Lawrence gravely observes, "You can always trust a woman who parts her hair in the middle" — by renting an Italian villa. Two other ladies, a society beauty and an imperious widow, help share the finances. Gradually, the Italian sun opens their clogged hearts; while various menfolk — two husbands, plus the villa's owner — drop in for complications.

The film is the airiest soufflé far from the usual dish of director Mike Newell, best-known for stringing up Ruth Ellis in *Dance With a Stranger*. Yet he never behaves as though this were a chore; how could he, with a cast so expert in character playing and comic nuances?

Joan Plowright has the fruitiest role as Mrs Fisher, an obdurate soul living on memories of Browning and Tennyson. But all play their part with grace and precision: from Miranda Richardson as the Hampstead do-gooder bothered by her resemblance to a "disappointed Madonna" to Michael Kitchen's short-sighted villa owner, *Enchanted April* is that distinct rarity: a completely happy film.

With *Proof* (15, Camden Plaza, Chelsea Cinema and Cannon Tottenham Court Road), Antipodean cinema gets another new director to crow about. Her name is Jocelyn Moorhouse: she has worked in Australian television, but this is her first feature. On this evidence, Moorhouse may not be a visual magician like Jane Campion, but her talent is real and this fascinating entertainment lingers in the mind. At the heart of *Proof* lies a teasing issue: the subjective nature of sight. The thirtyish hero, Martin, is blind and truculent. Were he left alone, he might age into the horrendous Mr Muckle who causes W.C. Fields's shopkeeper such misery in *It's a Gift* (bang, crash). To prove the validity of his sensual perceptions, Martin photographs scenes around him and persuades Andy, a guileless kitchen hand, to attach short descriptions to the snaps. The truth of the photos becomes compromised by the activities of Celia: Martin's housekeeper, vindictive through unrequited love.

Moorhouse lets in plenty of humour, from darning ironies to the full-blown comedy of Martin and Andy's escapade at a drive-in movie. Yet the dominant tone remains claustrophobic. For the duration, we share Martin's circumscribed world: a ponderous suburban house; ritual

walks in the neighbourhood park. Outside her love-hate bond, Celia has no other life. Andy becomes equally trapped in the triangle. Flashbacks offer no escape: they only take us to Martin's boyhood. All this may seem meat for an arid exercise in the games people play. But Moorhouse manipulates the situations with such unforced skill that she keeps us on edge. The actors help greatly, breathing life into these contrary folk: Hugo Weaving as Martin; Genevieve Pictot as the

housekeeper; Russell Crowe as the amiable chump walking into a hornet's nest. When Charlie Sheen remarks that he has his father's eyes, he fishes them from his pocket, mounted in a spectacle case. Such is the humour of *Hot Shots!* (12, Odeon Leicester Square), the latest creation from director Jim Abrahams and co-writer Pat Proft. Of *Airplane!* and *The Naked Gun* movies. *Hot Shots!*, though, seems an also-ran in the spoof comedy stakes.

We look for the touches of lunacy that made its predecessors so endearing, but all we find is Lloyd Bridges bumping into things and a running joke about sitting on chili-huass. We look for topical mischief. True, Saddam Hussein makes a brief appearance, but the bulk of the jokes rest on a five-year-old movie: *Top Gun*. To today's young audiences, this is ancient history. Charlie Sheen shoulders the principal part of a renegade navy pilot joining an elite team on a dangerous



Joan Plowright: "an obdurate soul living on memories of Browning and Tennyson", in *Enchanted April*

mission codenamed Sleepy Weasel. He might almost be parodying the role he played straight in *Navy Seals*. Other roles go to Cary Elwes (his rival in the air) and Valeria Golino, the film's most idiotic jest: when eggs and bacon are fired on her stomach, parodying the 9½ Weeks brand of erotic romance. Such antics rack up easy laughs, but they do nothing to ease the film's air of desperate scrapings from a near-empty barrel.

The end credits for *Hot Shots!* quote cooking recipes. Those for *The Indian Runner* (15, Cannon Tottenham Court Road) — Sean Penn's first feature as writer and director — quote Tagore. This is a film to be taken seriously: you can tell by the slow, brooding pace, the air of misery, the use of Indian legends to give mythic relevance to events that never quite deserve them.

Taking his cue from Bruce Springsteen's song "Highway Patrolman", Penn sings a morose tale of two brothers in late 'Sixties' Nebraska: one good (local cop, family man) and one bad (Vietnam veteran, petty criminal). It is easy to see Penn's furrowed brows behind Frank, the hell-raising brother who fights shy of responsibility and spits out half-baked peas at his pregnant child bride.

Penelope Mortensen, playing Frank, gives a fine performance. But he unbalances the film. Against this dark, left-dangling, flashing empty anguish as he tries to return Frank to the fold following the sudden deaths of both parents (Sandy Dennis — blink and you miss her — and Charles Bronson).

Penn dedicates the film to the memory of two mentors, Hal Ashby and John Cassavetes. Another, Dennis Hopper, appears in a seedy cameo. Cassavetes seems to have influenced the directing style most: long takes, strong acting, emotional intensity. Faults acknowledged, this remains an interesting debut. Next time round, perhaps Penn will have washed the indulgent gloom from his system.

Iron Maze (15, Cannons Haymarket and Oxford Street), a curious US-Japanese venture with Oliver Stone as executive producer, stands indicted on three counts. The film touches on a fruitful subject — American fears of Japan's business takeovers — but lacks the courage to grapple issues head on. The director Hiroaki Yoshida picks a fantastic location, a crumbling Pennsylvania steel factory, then squanders it through repetitive shots. The film also sullies memories of Kurosawa's *Rashomon*, laboriously dragging its source material, a 1927 short story, through the mire.

Rashomon gave us subjective interpretations of a violent forest incident. Now the setting is a disused factory outside Pittsburgh, where the new Japanese owner lies close to death, brained by a steel pipe. A disgruntled bellhop (Jeff Fahey) claims responsibility. The owner's American wife (Bridget Fonda) tells one story, then another. Who tells the truth? Who cares? By this time, the film itself lies close to death, brained by puppet characters, timid politics and poor dramatic technique.

"She's a living miracle!" croons the nun, about to turn over a newborn baby to its adoptive parents. But this is *Omen IV: The Awakening* (15, Cannon Pantion Street). This miracle grows into a child of Satan (eight-year-old Asia Vieira). This re-hash of shocks from previous *Omen* movies was made for US television, which explains the low blood count, though not the terrible quality. Jorge Montiel and Dominique Othenin-Gerard directed.

TELEVISION REVIEW

Big hand for small wonder

A mere three hours for an adaptation of Samuel Richardson's million-word 18th-century novel *Clarissa* seemed, at first glance, a slightly absurd proposition. Memories of Tom Stoppard's famous ten-minute *Hamlet* rose unbidden to the mind (characters introducing themselves then falling dead in heaps on the floor), and one started to think pious thoughts about poor old Richardson shifting uneasily in his grave.

Fortunately, last night's first episode of the television *Clarissa* (BBC 2) was so impressive that such fears were instantly dismissed. Classy in all things, this adaptation (directed by Robert Bierman) was notably magnificent on the matter of dramatic pace. For anyone familiar with Richardson's dense moment-by-moment text (which consists mostly in breathless present-tense letters between the characters), the effect was like hang-gliding at speed across the novel's terrain: it felt dangerous and exhilarating, while also affording a splendid view.

In film terms, the landscape was an eye-opener. *Clarissa* is a book primarily of mental worlds: externalised, it encompasses stately architecture, garden walks, trees rustling in the breeze, all against the sound of the distant screaming of peacocks. The adapters, David Nokes and Janet Barron, carefully planted the text. The virtuous and independent-minded *Clarissa* Harlowe (Saskia Wickham) was too "flighty", it was said: she was thus surrounded by people who stalked her with nets, guns and wing-clippers. In all her silken finery, she was the original girl in a gilded cage.

In fact, *Clarissa* was so bamboozled, bullied and boxed in — on the one side by

a jealous scheming family with ghastly marriage-plans, on the other by an importunate scheming rake Lovelace (Sean Bean) — that she made a very serious panic-decision. At the end of the episode, she escaped the family home at night-time under the protection of a man whose wig and buckle-shoes barely concealed his metaphorical horns and cloven hooves. As a moral choice for a moral young woman, this getaway was clearly like walking directly into a snare.

"A woman must know when to bend, or else she must surely break," warns *Clarissa*'s mother. But bending has no place in *Clarissa*'s life-plan, and when her Addams Family-style brother and sister start knocking her about, she actually rips her own bodice (a novel twist on an old cliché), and sets about her escape. If the novel had not been written in the 18th century, one might be suspicious that such an admirable female role-model could have existed prior to our own feminist times. "Have I no duty to myself?" she demands, with resounding moral authority. Sister, put it there.

This was terrific drama, beautifully filmed and constructed, and bearing virtually no resemblance to the genre known as "BBC costume drama", since the period was relatively unusual, the acting and direction filmic in style, and there was no glimpse of Colin Jeavons, Saskia Wickham and Sean Bean both have the admirable quality of looking like real people, rather than characters from a novel; and Sean Bean's Lovelace is so perfectly evil that he is even plausible when pretending to be good.

Thus, when he cynically puts moral pressure on *Clarissa* (he begs her to save his soul, knowing that she is a sucker where redemption is concerned), Bean plays it straight on the nose, without a shred of irony. Which is, of course, how the devil himself is supposed to play it.

LYNNE TRUSS

ARTS REVIEWS
The RSC in London
page 20

Cards' message

IF YOU were wondering what happened to the much-vaunted "Artscard", the credit card that benefits the arts, take note: Midland Bank says it has contributed £250,000 to arts organisations through its Artscard scheme. The scheme was launched in 1989 by Midland in association with the Arts Council and provides a regular income to 86 arts organisations. Midland donates £5 the first time the credit card is used; for every £100 subsequently spent, the bank contributes 25 pence. Artscard income helps develop new productions and maintain theatres.

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CAPERCALLIE, the young, Gaelic-speaking group from the Western Isles, have won increasing acclaim on their current tour supporting Scottish confrères Runrig. In contrast to their supporting act, Runrig's music is played on accordion, recorder, rock, Capercallie's music is played on bagpipes, fiddle, bodhran and bouzouki; their songs are vivid evocations of the Celtic tradition. The tour ends at St George's Hall, Bradford (0274 752000) tonight; Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (081-748 4081) tomorrow and Saturday.

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LITERATURE

Anthems for doomed youth

Literary historian Paul Fussell (right), talks to Clive Davis about how modern writers have altered attitudes to war



The true Poets must be truthful: that was Wilfred Owen's maxim, and in London tonight it will be celebrated in some style. Owen, the quintessential chronicler of the soldier's life in the first world war, was killed in action a week before the Armistice. His legacy is to be examined in a series of readings and lectures at the Poetry Society.

Sir Stephen Spender will discuss Owen's influence on the poets of the Thirties, while the novelist Pat Barker — whose recent novel, *Regeneration*, drew on the wartime experiences of Siegfried Sassoon — will talk about the psychology of battle. But perhaps the most keenly awaited contribution will come from the American literary historian Paul Fussell, author of the award-winning study, *The Great War and Modern Memory*, who will assess Owen's international standing. Owen is included in Fussell's new book, *The Bloody Game: An Anthology of Modern War*. Spanning the period from the first world war to the Vietnam conflict, the book mixes celebrated fictional accounts, such as an extract from Hemingway's *For Whom The Bell Tolls*, with poetry, essays and letters from conscripts. Owen is represented by five of his works, including "Dulce et Decorum Est" and

"Insensibility". His status as a major poet is now unquestioned, of course, but Fussell notes that his reputation was initially slow to spread among a public which was more accustomed to the romanticism of Rupert Brooke. "One reason why Owen is so popular today is that his work registers the late 20th century notion of soldiers and conscripts as victims," says Fussell, who is currently on sabbatical from the University of Pennsylvania. "Subsequent wars, such as Vietnam, have accustomed us to the idea that war is anti-heroic, and we have reached back to grab this poet from the past who ministers to our scepticism. The other poets from the Great War do it too, but not so acutely."

Originally compiled for an American audience, Fussell's anthology has a strong transatlantic bias: Soviet and Japanese contributors are absent, and the only German writers to be included are Erich

Maria Remarque and Heinrich Böll. Some classic works — Joseph Heller's *Catch 22* — were omitted in order to take in more obscure items. What comes across clearly is the contrast between the British and American traditions. The British contribute blunt, no-nonsense descriptions. Fussell's own favourite is Eugene Sledge's "With The Old Breed at Peleliu and Okinawa", an eyewitness account of the Marine Corps' battles in the Pacific.

Fussell is himself a second world war veteran. An infantry lieutenant, he was severely wounded in France in March 1945. After recuperating, he was waiting to be shipped off for service in the Pacific when news of Hiroshima was announced. He relived that period in a controversial essay, "Thank

God For The Atom Bomb". In *Warime*, his 1989 book on the culture of the second world war, he cites Walt Whitman's comment on the human cost of the American Civil War: "The real war will never get in the books." Fussell readily admits that the same is true of his anthology — what Owen called "the pity of war" — remains incommunicable.

In fact, in the age of CNN and Hollywood blockbusters such as *Platoon*, it might seem that the written word no longer has much of a role to play in the depiction of war. Fussell is not of that view. "The movies made about Vietnam are all desperately trying to be realistic — it's all trying to do words and lots of exploitive words and lots of exploitive words and wondering what you were doing morally. That can't be developed by looking at the outside of someone's person; you've got to get inside the mind. You can't do that in a movie. It's got to be done in a novel or memoirs."

The Wilfred Owen reading takes place tonight at 7.30pm at The Poetry Society, 21 Earls Court Square, London SW5 (071-373 7861). The *Bloody Game: An Anthology of Modern War* is published by Scribners at £19.95.

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Colourblind casting

Benedict Nightingale

backs Equity's call for racial equality on stage

Rudolph Walker was recently asked to take the part of the father in a television play about a trip to the seaside. But just before rehearsals began, he got a phone call. "Terribly sorry," said a voice, "we've had to recast the whole thing." The trouble was not that Walker had been belatedly revealed as inept. On the contrary, he is known as a fine actor who has played Caliban at the Old Vic, Gower in *Pericles* for the RSC and Othello at the Young Vic. No, the trouble was that he is of West Indian extraction.

Almost all black performers have similar frustrations to report, which is why their trade union, Equity, last night held a mini-conference wryly titled "Does Colour Really Matter?" The main question for debate — how to improve their professional opportunities — has never been more urgent. Drama schools are turning out more and more actors from minority groups, some very gifted. The number of black or Asian actors on Equity's books has risen from 400 to nearly 1,200 in the last decade. What is to be done with all that skill, energy and need?

The idea of quotas, much touted in America, is undesirable and probably unworkable. Must Cameron Mackintosh really ensure that every fifth role in the next *Cats* is cast on the basis of colour rather than excellence? But there are less doctrinaire possibilities, though some of these are controversial too. Josette Simon, who is black as well as brilliant, has just played Victoria in Webster's *White Devil* at the National. Paterson Joseph, black and highly promising, has been at the Barbican playing a Trojan, a Norwegian and a Spaniard; Shakespeare's Troilus, Haakon in Ibsen's *Pretenders*, and a pop in Molina's *Last Days of Don Juan*. What is to prevent commercial theatre and television producers following where the national companies have led?

Little bit fear of the very prejudices they themselves are reinforcing by so regularly asking the likes of Walker to be pimps, drug-pushers or roadweepers, while denying them more upmarket parts. There are admittedly some modern realistic plays, notably those where colour itself is an issue, in which more adventurous casting would be confusing. But why should middle-class characters almost always be played by white actors? Here, too, the National has recently set an example, casting Alphonse Emmanuel as the young barrister in David Hare's *Murmuring Judges*.

Nobody could reasonably quarrel with that. What still causes argument is so-called "colour-blind casting". Clarence Smith was actually heckled by a tourist ("an insult to my country") when he played a black King of France in the RSC's recent *Lea*. Is the company right to persevere with a policy which this autumn has seen black players as Aumerle in *Richard II* and the eligible American girl in *A Woman of Importance*?

Perhaps we were meant to notice the girl's colour subliminally, since the character she played was an outsider, highly critical of the spoiled British (this is known as "conceptual casting"). But it was of course almost as improbable that Victorian society should welcome a black American as that the Duke of York should have a black son. The audience was being asked to overlook their colour. It was, in short, invited to use its imagination — and why not?

Audiences of past eras found major shifts of setting or leaps of time unacceptably improbable. That is why Dryden transposed *Antony and Cleopatra* to an Alexandrian palace, reduced its span to a few hours, and called the result *All for Love*. We now laugh at such mistrust of the power of make-believe. So why should we be similarly literal-minded about colour? Stage convention is an adaptable, pliable thing; why not stretch it to embrace black faces in traditionally white roles?

The effort is small, the rewards can be great. Who would have wished to miss Josette Simon as the love-goddess based on Marilyn Monroe in Arthur Miller's *After the Fall*? All that is wanted is that producers feel freer, and directors become more willing, to cast parts as strongly as possible. With that, we may be surprised by some of the actors waiting in the wings. Without it, the result will be a shameful waste of British talent whose only error was to be black.

...and moreover
CRAIG BROWN

The House of Commons has always had a soft spot for its hecklers. Far from being feared and loathed, Tony Banks and Dennis Skinner were treated like mascots with retractable strings, ready to issue one of six amusing phrases as the moment demands.

They are seen as cuddly toys rather than rapping hyenas because their cackles reassure the others that the House is not quite as boring as they secretly fear. When I wrote the parliamentary sketch for *The Times* back in 1987, people at parties would ask me, "What was the mood of the House today, then?" For a long time, my answer was either "Dull" or "Even duller". Then I began to realise that, for politicians and veteran observers, the merest semi-colon placed in the middle of a two-hour speech, undetectable to the normal human ear, could signal tension mounting, a controversy raging, or even an uproar erupting.

You may have noticed that there hasn't been a murmur from MPs against television since it arrived in the House. This is because television makes everything look so much more exciting. Television viewers of Mrs Thatcher's Maastricht speech will have noticed that the MPs sitting around her looked as bored as commuters on a delayed train, slouching, fidgety, never once appearing outraged, perturbed or even mildly interested. Yet if those same MPs had been watching the speech on television, their in-

Eastern Europe now has the vote, but it has yet to learn tolerance, says Conor Cruise O'Brien

Last weekend I was sitting in a glass palace in the North Carolina woods, with a storm going on outside. Rain was lashing the huge windows of the National Humanities Center, which was sponsoring a conference on "The Idea of a Civil Society".

The expression civil society was coined in the first half of the 19th century. It was used by both Tocqueville and Hegel, and has recently been revived in America. Tocqueville and Hegel did not mean quite the same thing when they used the same words, and nor did the conference participants. No doubt this is inevitable when a number of people are speaking out of their personal understanding of an abstract phrase.

The crisp definition offered was this: "Civil society is a space which allows citizens to associate in opposition to the state."

Crisp, but not quite right. For most other speakers, I gathered that the idea of opposition to the state is not essential. It is more a question of there being a large and active sphere of association between the citizens, and

of the state refraining, by mutual accord, from intervening in it. As it is impossible to imagine an authoritarian state proceeding in any such manner, the emergence of civil society presupposes a framework of democratic institutions. But that doesn't mean that the expression is redundant. While authoritarian regimes cannot tolerate a civil society, there can easily be democratic governments which will not tolerate it either. For example, the democratically elected presidents of the Russian federation might oppress the non-Russian minorities.

There is a precedent in our own islands. For 52 years, from 1920 to 1972, Northern Ireland had its own freely elected parliament and government. Those democratic institutions used their powers to discriminate against a minority of the citizens. The abuses perpetrated were not as terrible as some have suggested, but they were real, and the resentments they caused are among the sources of the 20 years of violence.

The term civil society is useful therefore in helping to set standards for admission to the democratic club. Besides having free and fair elections, the candidate state must also have demonstrated its respect for civil society before it is admitted.

An assumption widely shared at the conference was that the only possible source of oppression is the state. The associations of citizens that make up civil society were assumed to be benign. But the Ku Klux Klan was an association of citizens, and it didn't stop the lynchings.

Then again, churches were among the associations named as making up civil society. Yet churches have oppressed people for centuries in the past, and are still oppressing them in many parts of the world. The Russian

Orthodox church, the Roman Catholic church and Islam are now filling a large part of the vacuum created by the fall of communism. All these are authoritarian institutions with records of oppressive behaviour, and they are beginning to throw their weight about again.

The Roman Catholic church in Poland has recently demanded full control over the education not only of Catholic children, but of all children in the country. I hope Western diplomats are now explaining to the Polish government that if the demand is conceded, Poland will not be admitted to the European Community until the law enforcing it is rescinded.

Several of the most interesting contributions to the conference came from participants from Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Many were humorous and even sparkling, but the general pic-

ture that emerged was sombre. A Polish speaker pointed out that only 40 per cent of the electorate had bothered to vote in the recent elections, and that the most successful party won only 13 per cent of the vote.

"They have been given freedom and they are not really interested," an American commented.

A Hungarian speaker described the position in his country, the most prosperous in the region. Much of the capital invested in Eastern Europe has gone to Hungary, but the economy is deteriorating. Its GNP has been declining for three years. "The cake is shrinking," the speaker ended with the words: "If the countries of Eastern Europe can't overcome their economic difficulties in a short time I don't exclude the possibility of political rearrangement" — a euphemism for a coup.

The bleakest speech, perhaps inevitably, came from a Russian. He spoke of the despondency and cynicism of the people, who were attracted to democratic ideas because they thought a free market would fill the shops with goods. Now they are "fed up with the free market" — without having lived in it for a single day. Of those in authority, he said: "If they can't solve the economy, they can't legitimise themselves." If they fail, he said, they may be succeeded by an authoritarian regime based on racial ideology. Such tendencies, he said, are disturbing. The intelligentsia, by strong, are disturbing. The intelligentsia, by strong, are disturbing. The intelligentsia, by strong, are disturbing.

Why Montaigne matters

A new edition of the essays of a 16th-century mayor of Bordeaux is among the best guides to human nature, explains Bernard Levin

The other day, I was going on at length about the countless translations of *Villain*: now I must turn to the *Essays* of Montaigne, a work which as far as I can discover has had fewer than 10 complete English versions in four centuries. Another was published last week, by M.A. Screech (Allen Lane, £35). He is a notable Montaigne scholar, and some time ago gave us a taste of his translation qualities with a version of what is by far the longest of the essays that comprise Montaigne's book, the *Apology for Raymond Sebond*. (Those coming new to Montaigne will find his endearing habit of wandering off the point illustrated to perfection in this extraordinary masterpiece.)

Biographies of Montaigne are few and slender, or at least they ought to be. To be Mayor of Bordeaux in the middle of the 16th century may well have been an onerous burden; probably it was, because Montaigne made clear that he was reluctant to take up the post (a post, I am sorry to say, that he abandoned when the plague came). That, and looking after his inheritance and a little diplomatic travelling comprise virtually all his activities. His home life was tranquil: he sired many sons, all of whom died early. He could easily have been missed altogether by history, but for his book.

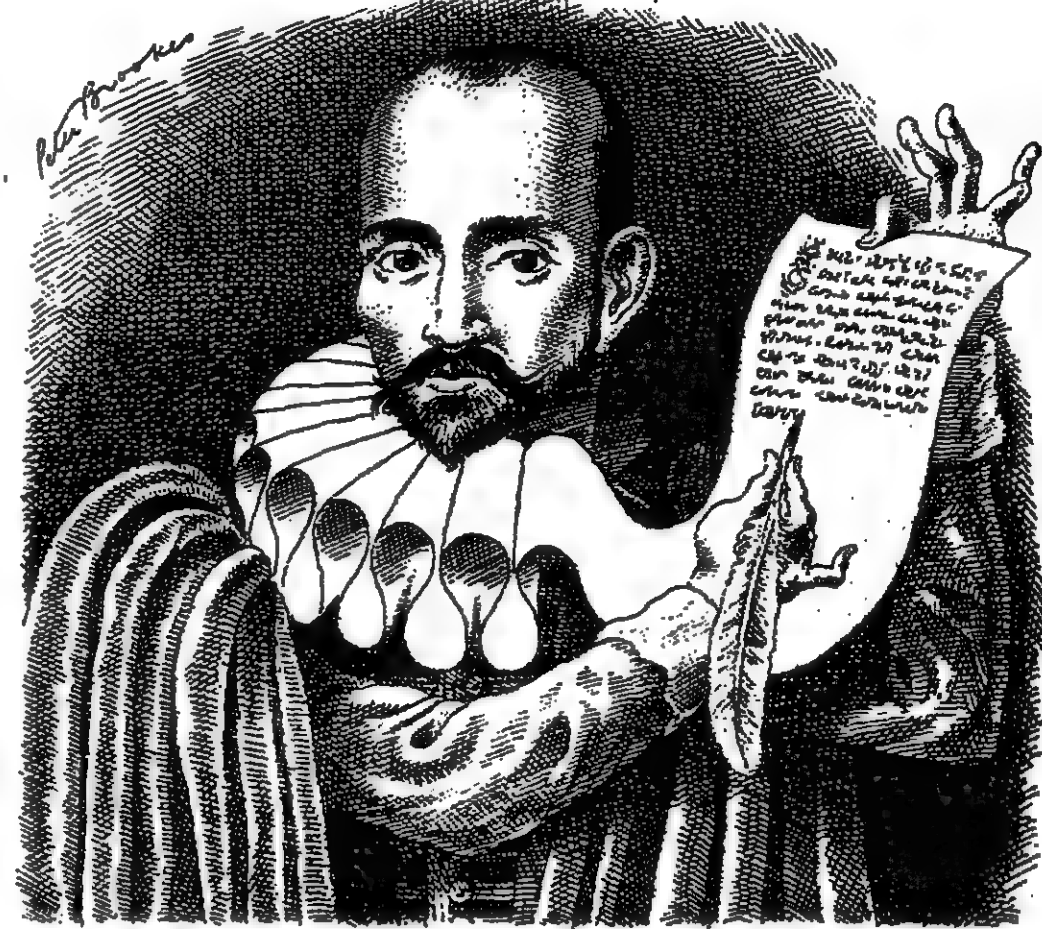
But for his book. In that, he depicted human nature more exactly, more thoroughly, and more variously, than any man in all history other than Shakespeare: their lives overlapped for 38 years, and it is not at all unlikely that Shakespeare read Montaigne's book, first translated into English in 1603 (as you

shall learn more fully in a few paragraphs' time).

To translate is always to lose; the goal is to lose as little as possible. (Which cynic was it who said *Les traductions sont comme les femmes: quand elles sont belles, elles ne sont pas fidèles, et quand elles sont fidèles, elles ne sont pas belles*?) How much has Dr Screech lost, and how much of it could he have avoided losing? His prose, I think, shows a great effort to ride his two horses — modernity and antiquity — at the same time, but the effort shows, and it shouldn't. Montaigne was the one of the most lucid and straightforward writers who ever lived, and damnably difficult though he is to translate, there should be no sign of effort. (One of Dr Screech's problems, which all translators of Montaigne face, is how to signal the different strata of the work, for Montaigne kept adding and changing, edition by edition; Screech signals the additions with huge capitals on almost every page, made worse by putting them in square brackets and worse still by then putting a massive space on both sides of the brackets, so that the whole book seems to have come down with measles.)

Never mind; a new translation of Montaigne will, happily, introduce him to another generation of readers, and in his Elysian Fields they can browse among an infinity of thoughts and ideas and comments on that odd creature called man.

And then I turned to the index. I have made so much uproar about inadequate indexes that you might think publishers would by now always provide proper ones, if only to ensure they are not pelted with ordure from the hand of Levin.



the Indexer's Champion. Well, I give notice that I have just signed a new contract with my publisher, who assures me that his stocks are sufficient to last well into the next century. Screech's "index" is an abomination. He, a distinguished and experienced academic, offers an inexcusable insult to his author, so much so that he would have done better to dispense with an index altogether.

First, it is nothing but a list of proper names, whereas there is no writer in all history who cries out more loudly for an index to his ideas, his themes, his comments, his attitudes, his quotations, his self-descriptions, his musings, his experiences, his digressions, his jests. But that is not the worst. The wretched, dreary parade of names is anyway useless, because it is nothing but a string of undifferentiated page-numbers, with a pathetic sop in the form of bold-type numerals indicating "more than a passing reference".

Try him on Plato. There are 107 references, of which 18 are in bold type, and in neither category is there any further guidance — not a single word anywhere to break the flow of meaningless numbers. Alexander the Great is an even better example: 45 numbers, of which 14 are the supposedly more useful bold-type entries.

Not long ago I was excoriating the slubbed-up editions of the OUP for such an index; my rage was heightened by my knowledge of what the OUP had once been: a byword for publishing integrity, meticulous care and a staff that missed nothing. Now, with this new Montaigne, I have to pour abuse on a firm which bears another of the greatest names in British publishing, Allen Lane.

What makes this *dégringolade* all the more shameful is that an index to Montaigne has been made, and the circumstances of its making deny Screech and his publisher their last feeble excuse, viz., the difficulties encountered in a work which by its very nature rarely keeps still long enough for an index-entry to be pinned to it. But before me lies an index admirable in itself, and the more remarkable for having been compiled so long ago that it appeared only about 150 years after indexes as we would recognise them came into being.

The first translation of Montaigne into English was pub-

lished in 1603. It was done by that remarkable man John Florio (it is said that Holofernes, in *Love's Labour's Lost*, is a caricature of him). Florio lived up to his flowery name: he made very free with Montaigne's relaxed prose, torturing it into strange and colourful shapes. Still, he did it, and threw in an index for good measure. I have the two-volume Nonesuch edition; it is beautifully leather-bound, and the typography is wonderfully fitting. (What an enterprise Nonesuch was, with its unwavering standards and every aspect of every book lined up in its place to take another step towards perfection. When shall we see again such a band of brothers so determined to seek the best the world offers? Well, not from the OUP or Allen Lane, that's for sure.)

Now see some of Florio's enchanting entries:

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But you get the idea. More to the point, you get the flavour of Montaigne. Indeed, if you had never heard of Montaigne, but simply read through Florio's index, would you not turn eagerly to the text of what you must by then be thinking an intriguing work?

Dear me, dear me: I came here this morning to write about a new translation of Montaigne, and I can hardly claim to have fulfilled my promise. I therefore feel obliged to return to the subject on Monday, when I assure you I shall do nothing but wander in and out of Montaigne's mind and report on what I find there.

P.S. Allen Lane can't even get their jacket-copy right. Who is this "Erasmus" claiming to have written *The Praise of Folly*?

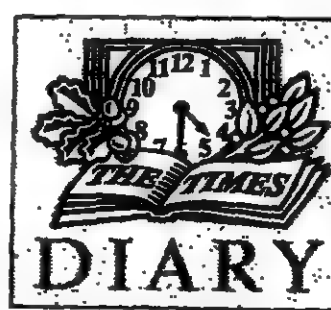
Driven to fury

JOHN PRESCOTT, Labour's thundering transport spokesman, was involved in another tearful tiff at Westminster yesterday during which he abused a Tory MP and, according to astonished on-lookers, "turned the air blue".

The trouble began when Prescott was a guest of honour at the dinner of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders at the Hilton Hotel. As Prince Michael of Kent, Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, and Norman Willis of the TUC were walking through the dining-room door, they met Prescott marching out in the highest dudgeon.

Prescott — whose transport policies favour mass transit methods at the expense of the motorising interests of his hosts — felt he had been snubbed. Why had no place been kept for him at the top table, he complained bitterly. Officials from the society ran after him as he stormed out and attempted to explain that a bureaucratic mix-up had meant his name was omitted from the table plan, but not only was a space reserved for him at the table of honour but, if he had cared to look, a name card also prominently marked his place. Someone had sat in his place in error, but the interloper would be discreetly moved.

That, however, was not the end of it. When Tory MP Philip Oppenheim indelicately mentioned the matter in the Commons, Prescott exploded again. The two ran into each other afterwards in the members' tearoom. "It was extraordinary," says Oppenheim. "I walked in and Prescott pounced. I have never heard so many four-letter words. I gave up on the tea and went straight to the bar for a stiff brandy."



● The sign language translator at the Royal Court Theatre in London is unused to being in the spotlight. But the interpreter's acting skills are tested to the limit in *Death and the Maiden*, starring Juliet Stevenson, when the word orgasm, which has no equivalent in sign language, is uttered on stage. Audiences are treated to a four-second display of flailing arms and much heaving of the chest to signify the earth moving and similar phenomena.

House-trained

WHAT a master-stroke on the part of *The Spectator* to confer upon Dave Nellist the award of backbencher of the year. He arrived late and dressed in a green parka, but present and correct, nevertheless. Some mischievous soul had him upon the idea of seating him next to Sir Peregrine Worsthorne. "I wonder they let him in the House. I wouldn't have him in any house of mine," the former *Sunday Telegraph* editor was heard to mutter.

Nellist was equal to the occasion, winning over even the most right-wing Tories. It was his first visit to the Savoy, he said, and probably his last. He quoted Gilbert and Sullivan on "apologetic statesmen of a compromising kind",

leaving the "bloated capitalists", as he described the audience, to fill in their own names.

The greatest applause of the lunch greeted the Militant-supporting MP's explanation of why he was late. As he was leaving he had received "an emergency phone-call from the Finchley and Haverstock Heath constituency union". On finding that her daughter Carol was one of eight million non-payers, he had heard that Mrs Thatcher had declared "it's a funny old world". Even Worsthorne was won over. "Nice speech," he purred, patting Nellist warmly on the shoulder.

But is it fine?

THE dozen of kitsch, Vladimir Tretchikoff, is refusing to be crowned king of the genre. The 84-year-old Russian-born billionaire, whose pictures of oriental beauties sell millions in Woolworths, has refused to allow his

Kitschen-Sink Art



work to appear on the cover of new book on the subject, "I'm nothing to do with kitsch," he told Peter Ward, author of *Kitsch in Sync: A Consumer's Guide to Bad Taste* which is published tomorrow. "The term is derogatory. My painting is art, fine art," insists the

man who has probably sold even more prints than Van Gogh's *Sunflowers*. "It's sad he won't let us use his work," says Ward. "We had offered him the chance to be there with some of the all-time greats, including Dali. As someone once said: only art will break your heart, but it's kitsch will make you rich."

● Does no one have a good word to say for Washington these days? Even Raymond Seitz, the US ambassador in London, who one might have thought was here to promote the place, was at it this week. Americans used to think it was England which stood for "arrogance, pomposity, corruption, impertinence, immorality and exploitation", he told the *Ends of the Earth* club. Today Americans know the description fits Washington far better.

Keys to wisdom

COMPUTERS are storming the calm of the cloister. In a project designed to provide megabytes for cenobites, the works of the early Christian saints are to be made available on compact disc for the first time next year. Clerics will be only a key stroke away from accessing the wisdom of the Venerable Bede, St Augustine, St Ambrose, and St Jerome.

Monks will be able to search the database for inspiration from scriptural citation. "Seminaries and monasteries have shown considerable interest in the project," says the manufacturer, Chadwyck Healey. "Even the Trappists have shown interest."

Commercially it is a gamble, they concede — few in religious orders have yet mastered the intricacies of skimming through CD-ROMs on their PCs. The hand of God moves in mysterious ways; His message via a keyboard may prove more comprehensible.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 that the Board of Directors of the Company has resolved to acquire the shares of the Company which are held by the shareholders of the Company who are entitled to the dividend for the year ending 31st March 1991.

(14) the statutory declaration of the Company's directors and report of the Company's auditors required by Section 173 of Act in respect of such payment out of capital are available for inspection by any member or creditor of the Company at the Company's registered office, 135 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 3BQ during business hours on any day (except a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday) throughout the period ending 5 weeks after the date of the said dividend.

Resolution,
and
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may at any time within 14
weeks immediately following the
date of the said Written Resolution
bring a motion to the High Court
pursuant to Section 176 of the
Act for an order prohibiting
payment out of capital
dated the 28th day
of November 1991
Tim Bryers
Company Secretary
Registered Office,
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Notice of Appointment Received
Administrative Receivers
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Registered number: 002
Main office: business: 002
Trade classification: 50.1
Appointment of administrative receivers
Name of person appointed
Administrative receivers
Administrative Bank
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Villagers from near the airport said they had been told to go to the main road and shout slogans against Khieu Samphan. And students from several schools also demonstrated carrying placards depicting a skull and crossbones and saying "Pol Pot — murderer." At the airport arrival yesterday, Maik Ben, a Khmer Rouge official, had said there would be no problems over security.



The county council will convene a case committee to determine whether the mother and child should be allowed to stay together.

Kissing warning, page 8

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Tide in Swansea: Twp 5.000ft.

Information published by Met Office

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The man from Del Monte he say “Oi.”

Pardon the abruptness.

But if you've been reading reports about Del Monte recently, we need to clear something up. There is more than one company called Del Monte. One is PPI Del Monte Fresh Produce BV, currently owned by Polly Peck International. And then there is us, Del Monte Foods International Limited, (as in the Man from Del Monte). We're the ones who bring you all those delicious fruit juices and canned fruits amongst other things. And we're a totally separate company, owned by management, employees and a group of investors led by members of the Charterhouse group. We just thought you should know.



Del Monte Foods International Limited, Del Monte House, Staines, England.

STOCK MARKET

Sterling volatility continues to depress shares

ANOTHER volatile day for the pound on the foreign exchanges left investors on the equity market anxious.

The pound made up some of its recent losses against the mark but faltered against the dollar. Misplaced fears about another coup in the Soviet Union found traders scurrying out of the mark and into the dollar as they tried to cover themselves before today's Thanksgiving Day celebrations in America.

An early advance on the equity market waned, leaving prices drifting nervously throughout the rest of the session. Attempts at a rally were halted by another opening fall on Wall Street.

The FT-SE 100 index closed down 24 points at 2,447.5, just above its low for the day. Turnover grew to 548 million shares, swollen by a mixed programme trade by Smith New Court.

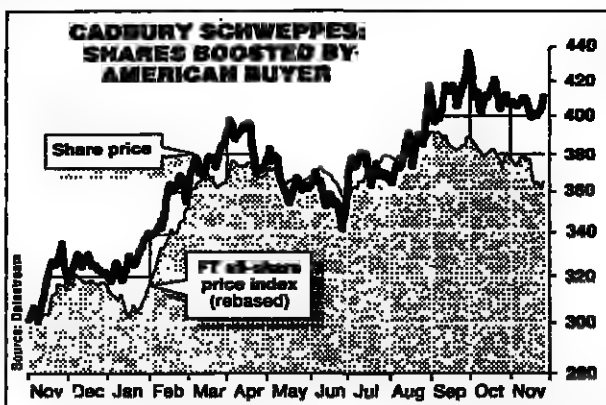
Government securities closed with gains of 1/4 at the longer end.

Among leaders, Rank Organisation fell 12p to 652p as a line of 1.5 million shares went through the market. SmithKline Beecham fell 15p to 776p on reports it had stopped development of a new anti-ulcer drug.

The decision by the big supermarket chains to open on Sundays in the run-up to Christmas continued to attract attention. Argyl, up 2p at 283p, started the ball rolling on Tuesday after announcing a bumper set of half-year figures. It was quickly followed by Tesco, 1p easier at 224p, and Asda, steady at 39p. J Sainsbury, 1p firmer at 336p, has also fallen into line.

Kwik Save Discount, the discount food retailer, surged 26p to 569p after reporting full-year figures at the top end of City expectations. Pre-tax profits rose from £85.2 million to £101.6 million.

Revived bid hopes saw Cadbury Schweppes touch



412p before ending the session 2p better at 407p. Whispers in the market claimed a large American buyer was stalking the shares. The 17 per cent stake bought a few years ago by General Cinema of America remains fresh in the minds of most speculators. General Cinema later disposed of its stake but Cadbury continues to attract speculative support.

Tate & Lyle, the sugar group, advanced 7p to 364p in response to pre-tax profits

Expect a smart rise from Borthwicks, the former meat trader — unchanged at 34 1/2p — on receipt of better than expected half-year figures today. Pre-tax profits should exceed £800,000, against a full-year £255,000 last time, and the progress is set to continue.

of £234 million (£218 million). Also in the food sector, Unigate, the dairy products and transport group, ended 1p softer at 295p after half-year figures showing pre-tax profits only £1.9 million ahead at £43.3 million.

Cabra Estates, the property developer, fell 1p to 13p. The Stamford Bridge ground has been valued at £22.8 million. Cabra says Chelsea Football Club is legally bound to complete the purchase.

Rabens, the jeweller, fell

Opec extends high oil ceiling

FROM REUTERS IN VIENNA

THE oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries signed an output agreement yesterday that lets its members keep pumping crude at will for the rest of the northern hemisphere's winter, according to Ghulamreza Aqazadeh, the Iranian oil minister. The decision extends the group's existing production ceiling into the first quarter of 1992, when ministers expect strong demand for their oil.

Opec also reaffirmed its desire to see prices for its crude climb back to \$21 a barrel, according to Celestino Armas, the Venezuelan oil minister. That price has not been reached since early in the Gulf war last January. The average price for Opec's basket of seven crudes slipped to \$19.74 a barrel last week from \$19.98 the week before.

Opec agreed last September to limit total output to 23.65 million barrels per day, a ceiling with little practical effect because it roughly equals the group's collective pumping capacity with Iraq and Kuwait sidelined by the Gulf crisis. The group produced 23.7 million bpd in October. Only Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, has room to boost output from the 8.5 million bpd it pumps now.

Saudi officials, brandishing forecasts of strong demand early next year, urged fellow members to keep output high for the rest of the winter to help balance rising demand. With Iraqi exports still blocked by economic sanctions, Kuwait rebuilding its shattered energy network and turmoil in the Soviet Union disrupting supplies from the world's biggest producer, the Saudis said that Opec cannot be a stingy custodian of three-quarters of the world's proven oil reserves.

But a generous pumping programme is sure to hit snags when the northern winter ends, undermining demand just as Kuwait and perhaps Iraq pour more oil into the market. The ministers discussed ways to choke off some production.

MICHAEL CLARK

Foreign growth holds sweet prospects for Tate & Lyle



Eighty per cent overseas and looking for more: Neil Shaw of Tate & Lyle

10.5 times prospective earnings, making them look distinctly good value.

London Electricity

THE main interest in this year's interim reporting season from the 12 regional electricity distributors is the degree to which each is prepared to risk upsetting the regulator with dividend increases. The evidence so far, although slender, indicates a measure of timidity.

To Norweb's notional 13 per cent increase — that is, a rise of 13 per cent over what the company would have paid had it been privatised last time — can be added a 12 per cent rise, and a similar forecast for the full year, from London Electricity.

First-half figures from the companies, as with any energy utility, are of little consequence to the full-year figures, covering as they do the summer months. London saw pre-tax profits rise from a notional £1.1 million to £14.5 million despite a hefty £5 million above-the-line provision covering anything from the Barber pension case to in-

surance claims for holes dug in the capital's roads.

The recession has impacted both on the rate of bad debts from business failures, doubled since last time, and on prospects for growth in the important commercial sector. Retailing remains a disaster, with restructuring pushing it into a £3 million loss in the first half. London expects a respectable 2 per cent growth in the core electricity distribution business over the current year, however.

Other companies, most likely South Wales and Northern, may break ranks and raise dividends by more than the sector as a whole, but for now London is holding the line. The shares now yield just over 7 per cent, only a touch ahead of the sector average, and have no real reason to outperform.

Hambros

MISREADING the market can be expensive. Hambros has never been this easy — a Countrywide discovered this to its cost at the start of the year, when it geared up for a recovery in the property market. To cope with the anticipated rush, the estate agency chain recruited teams of negotiators and life insurance salesmen, who then sat idly by while the

Gulf War prevented the market from improving.

The result of this error is displayed in Hambros' results for the half year to end-September. Pre-tax profits fell 12 per cent to £37.6 million due to a £4.1 million loss at Countrywide, compared with a £1 million profit last time. The dividend, however, is being lifted by 0.2p to 4.2p.

The mishap conceals Hambros' many strengths. The banking operation continues to defy expectations. Profits have risen 23 per cent to £40.5 million, due to had debt provisions of only £4.7 million on a £2 billion loan book, a strong capital markets operation and the upsurge in rights issue activity. It still carries enough weight in the City to complete large corporate finance deals.

Hambros' potential lies in its estate agency chain. When the housing market finally recovers, the bank's 480 agencies are capable of selling 50,000 houses a year and making a profit of £25 million. Until then the banking business provides core profitability. The shares at 270p stand on a p/e ratio of only 10 on estimated profits of £85 million for the year. A yield of 6.8 per cent on a forecast dividend of 13.8p makes them very attractive in the medium term.

"The global markets served by Tate & Lyle continue to benefit from inherent steady growth, unlike many other markets in times of recession. As a result we have enjoyed another successful year — the thirteenth year in a row in which we have reported increased profits."

Neil Shaw

Chairman & Chief Executive

TATE+LYLE

PRELIMINARY RESULTS	1991	1990	% Change
Turnover	£3,262m	£3,445m	-5
Profit Before Tax	£234.6m	£218.0m	+8
Earnings Per Share — basic	39.6p	36.0p	+10
Earnings Per Share — fully diluted	33.4p	30.2p	+11
Dividends	11.2p	10.0p	+12
Return on Net Operating Assets	22.9%	22.7%	

Preliminary announcement of results for the 52 weeks ended 28th September 1991.

Copies of the Annual Report for the period ended 28th September 1991 will be posted to shareholders shortly and will be available from:

N J Nightingale, Secretary, Tate & Lyle PLC, Sugar Quay, Lower Thames Street, London

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HEWLETT PACKARD

COMMENT

Making Sid into Aunt Sally

The government's sale of BT shares has focused attention on the bizarre and random changes the government has been making to its own ideas on privatised utilities. They were meant to be safe investments that would yield moderate growth to a new generation of investors venturing beyond building societies, trusts and National Savings. In the brave new world of mass share ownership, ordinary people would associate themselves with the need for healthy profits for investment and economic growth.

Having been privatised, however, the utilities have become political Aunt Sallys, damned for their profits and used as a testbed for theories earlier rejected as dangerous and counter-productive. Thus far, it is not clear how far this is a pre-election manoeuvre by the government to deflect opposition attacks and how far it is the revenge of Whitehall on its unloved former charges.

In BT's case, measures to screw down profits and force competition seem to be, at least in the short run, simply a gain for consumers at the expense of shareholders. In gas, electricity and water, wider issues of the quality and security of supply are at stake. The carefully judged attack on regulatory instability from Bob Thian, chief executive of North West Water, points to the conflict between short-term pressure on prices and long-term pressure to improve standards, the old fault of state industries. There is also an inexorable move to American-style control of rate of return, which the government rightly rejected as sapping incentive and innovation.

The utilities have themselves to blame. Several water companies, for instance, made excessive dividend rises for 1990-1, undermining the case for medium-term price regulation and for smoothing out good years and bad. Top pay, though not excessive by big company standards, was raised so fast that opprobrium was inevitable. That invited pressure on regulators such as Sir Bryan Carsberg of Ofwat and Ian Byatt of Ofwat, who have records of good sense, to be hyperactive champions of the consumer, not least to protect the utility regulation system against a change of government. Whoever is to blame, the system is falling rapidly into disrepute.

Unveiling MCC

The Maxwell brothers, Kevin and Ian, have at last decided to produce a cleaned up set of accounts for Maxwell Communication Corporation, the more complex and troubled of the two quoted elements of their father's legacy. Not before time. The MCC accounts were badly in need of an overhaul.

Stripping out what most analysts would regard as non-recurring items, dealing profits and non trading items as currency profits would in the last reported year have reduced the pre-tax profit line to a mere fraction of its published value.

However, this is only half the task. Perhaps more difficult for the sons, in the sense that their father always refused, is a similar decision to take a hard line with the accounts of the family's private companies.

Shares in MCC and MGN were used as security for loans to the private companies. Without a clear exposition of the financial affairs of those family interests, it is uncertain whether or not those shares will be called by the banks and later offered to an unwilling market. Having started the process of unveiling the business, the Maxwell brothers should continue the process to its logical conclusion.

Steelmakers recycled in a crucible of over-capacity

Wolfgang Munchau argues that subsidies, even if they are hidden,

will not protect Europe's steel industry from the basic law of supply and demand

The problem with the steel industry is that the more it is subsidised, the greater its long-term difficulties become, since subsidies tend to delay capacity reduction and promote lower prices, and lower profits.

Yesterday's decision by the European Commission to allow Crédit Lyonnais, the French state-owned bank, to inject Fr2.5 billion into Usinor Sacilor, the French state-owned steelmaker, in return for a 9 per cent stake, will once again raise the old controversy over subsidies. Officially, Europe no longer subsidises its steel industry, except perhaps in some special cases. But there is less clarity about hidden subsidies, and some would say that is what this is.

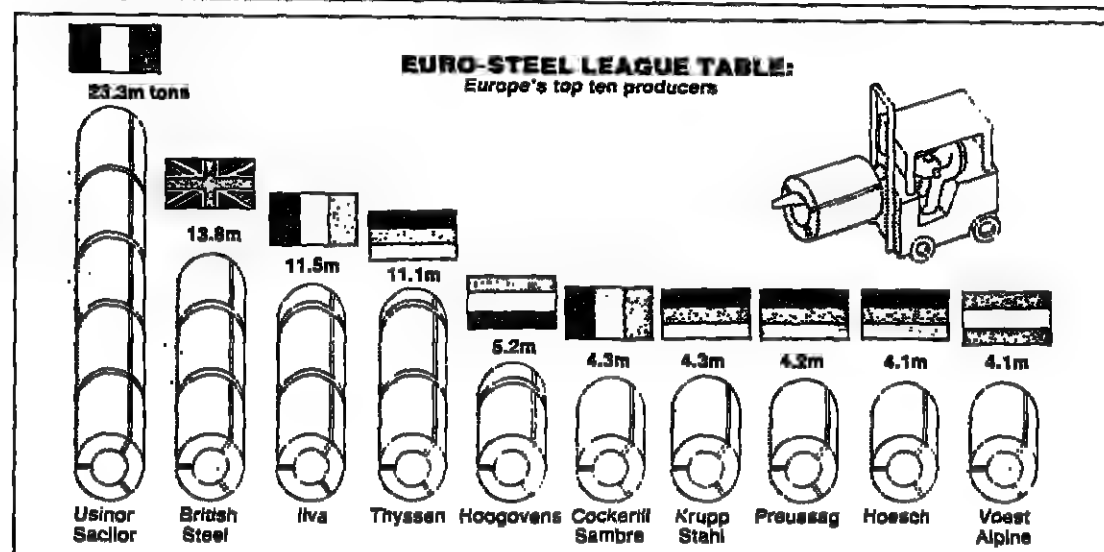
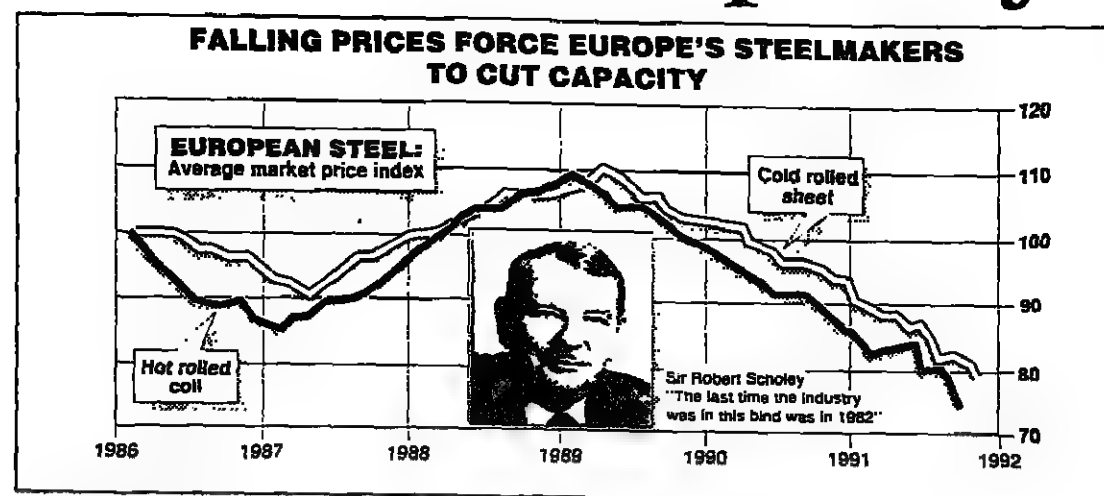
Sir Robert Scholey, chairman of British Steel, has condemned the investment in Usinor, his largest European competitor, as anti-competitive from the outset. A spokesman for British Steel said yesterday: "We find the commission's agreement difficult to understand and we will be considering it in conjunction with our financial advisers."

The question of whether an injection of state funds into state-owned companies is a subsidy or a genuine investment has always been difficult for the European Commission to decide.

In the case of the steel industry, however, yesterday's decision is even more controversial because of the consequences on competition, and because it comes against a background of deep difficulties for the whole of Europe's steel industry. Over the past two years, steel profits have declined substantially as prices have fallen by 30 per cent in some steel sectors. The biggest shock came this month from British Steel, which announced a collapse in interim pre-tax profits from £307 million to £19 million, and some experts believe this might turn into a full-year loss. The experts also agree that British Steel is now Europe's most efficient steelmaker.

The immediate cause of the fall in profits at British Steel, and elsewhere, is the steep fall in steel prices from 1989 levels, as the chart shows. The trend has continued this year and is expected to last into 1992. Last May, the price spread for hot-rolled wire coils was DM610/630 per tonne, but by October the price had come down to DM520/550. The same thing has occurred in every other steel segment.

Prices fall when supply outstrips demand. Demand has been relatively steady across the EC at 110 to 115 million tonnes a year. The fall in prices is a consequence of the rise in



the amount of steel on offer, although not necessarily produced, the difference being exports and changes in stock levels. In this case, the fall in prices came through large scale destocking. The process of stock building and destocking is primarily responsible for the highly cyclical nature of the business.

British Steel and Usinor have decided to reverse the price trend from next year onwards. In British Steel's case this would amount to the reduction in certain discounts, equivalent to a price rise of some 4 per cent to 5 per cent. But it is already apparent that not everybody in the industry will participate.

Peter Fish, managing director of MEPS (Europe), a specialist research company, thinks these price rises will not stick. "The underlying problem is the oversupply in the market. Under those circumstances customers will not accept price rises," he said. The price war, he predicts, will last well into next year. British Steel, he estimates, is already making losses judging by the further decline in prices since October.

"My view is that the output needs pulling back pretty drastically now to put supply and demand in balance," he said. Even if destocking is the overt cause of the price fall, in the end it comes down to industry's inability to reduce supply when necessary. So the process of massive restructuring that started in the Eighties is likely to continue. Already, between 1980 and 1988,

capacity in the EC has been reduced from 194.5 million tonnes to 165 million tonnes, and employment fell from 672,000 to 409,000.

Much of this transformation was achieved through public subsidy, largely geared towards capacity reduction. During that period this amounted to a staggering 40 billion euros (£28.4 billion) across the EC. Since 1988, the subsidies have gone down. Last week in Brussels, European industry ministers adopted what is probably the tightest regime ever on subsidies in the industry, and limited state subsidies to strictly confined areas, like environmental projects or special research and development. There are still some exemptions for Greece, Portugal and eastern Germany, but their combined output is very small. The biggest question is whether yesterday's decision might set a precedent for back-door subsidies.

Sir Robert warns that subsidies will eventually backfire. Earlier this month, he said: "The last time the industry was in this bind was in 1982. The cost of propping up the European steel industry ran to £3 billion a year. There is a limit to how long states and institutions can bear that."

Irrespective of the subsidy issue, the financing of state and private companies is never strictly comparable. In the end, the state-owned group will be able to hold out longer and tolerate lower profits, perhaps

even losses, than their private competitors. Under pressure, private companies have therefore a marginally greater interest in reducing capacity than their state-owned counterparts. This is the case even if everybody plays fair, not necessarily a safe assumption in an industry often accused of price-rigging.

In the end, capacity needs to be cut on all fronts, and the concentration process will continue. Nowhere is this a more urgent need than in Germany. Despite recent mergers and the fact that Germany produces more steel than any other European country, none of the top three European steel companies is German.

Further pressure will come from developing nations, such as South Korea and Brazil, which have built formidable steel industries. Eastern Europe, with its cheaper labour, could take a slice of the action, too.

This scenario is compatible with the infamous theory that industries have a certain life span beyond which they cannot be rescued, through subsidies or restructuring. New technologies, changes in labour cost and the liberalisation of world trade drive some of these industries abroad. Since demand for steel is fairly constant and steel mills are becoming ever more efficient, capacity and jobs will need to be cut constantly. The best long-term outcome may be survival as a minor industry. In the end, the industry might be so small that its efficiency is hardly noticeable.

Job rights hit wrong note for Howard

In the run-up to the Maastricht summit, the government's difficulties over Europe seem to be mounting daily. Though political, economic and monetary union will be ministers' headline problems, the thorny question of social Europe — largely employment rights — could still be among the most intractable.

For probably the first time, the government let slip just how difficult when Michael Howard, the employment secretary, told the Commons that, try as it might, the UK government might not be able to prevent some employment changes put forward by Brussels to which Britain has strenuously objected.

Writing in these pages yesterday, Norman Willis, TUC general secretary and president of the European TUC, suggested that Maastricht might fall for John Major not because of federalism in Europe or EMU, but because of workers' rights. His statement came after the signing by the ETUC and Unice, the European employers' body, of an agreement proposing changes to the Treaty of Rome that for the first time will give both employers and unions a formal role in determining and implementing EC employment policy. The changes are incorporated in the draft treaty for Maastricht, and look likely to come into effect.

The CBI yesterday again angrily attacked the social action programme — the implementation of EC president Jacques Delors's social charter. But neither the CBI's nor the government's attacks seem much in line with current public feeling, according to opinion poll evidence yesterday.

Though the poll was commissioned by the TUC, which has a vested interest, the questions put by NOP to 977 people last weekend were clear enough. Did they support the inclusion in the Maastricht treaty of a common framework of employment rights throughout Europe? Seventy-one per cent said they did, with 16 per cent against.

Worryingly for the government, three-fifths of those intending to vote Conservative at the forthcoming general election were also in favour, as were 83 per cent of Labour supporters. Asked whether they supported qualified majority voting — under which EC member states decide on an issue on the basis of weighted votes, which will be the subject of severe contention at Maastricht — 48 per cent were in favour and 34 per cent against.

Especially with that kind of public support, the unions are cock-a-hoop with what they see as a big coup in the Unice agreement. The CBI publicly looks as though it is wriggling on a hook partly of its own making. But Maastricht looks set to confirm the Unice-ETUC deal; and if it does, as Mr Howard acknowledged this week about the action plan, there may not be much the government — at best uneasy about the agreement — will be able to do about it.

PHILIP BASSETT
Industrial Editor

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

In pursuit of the edible

TODAY is Thanksgiving and Bob Payton, the irrepressible New Yorker who runs the My Kinda Town restaurant chain, plans to celebrate in his usual style. Payton, who is still trying to find a buyer for Stapleford Park, his country house hotel in Leicestershire, is due in Leicester Square, London, this morning to open a branch of Chicago Rib Shack, one of several theme restaurants he owns. He is then due back in Leicestershire for a spot of hunting before a traditional Thanksgiving feast for 95 guests. "Any excuse for a party," says Payton, who lavished £4.6 million on Stapleford Park before putting it on the market for £6.5 million in September, and has plans for a £3 million golf course on the estate. Another restaurant is due to open in Cologne today, but Payton will not be in attendance. "I made it from Dublin to Paris for two openings on the same day last year, but Cologne is a bit off the beaten track," he adds.

Day trippers

SOME companies are so desperate to have analysts attend their briefings that they have begun laying out coaches to catch City scribbles as they leave one meeting in time to bus them over for the next. Boots and Burton struck a deal last week in which a coach was on hand to ferry guests between venues. And the red carpet was rolled out for analysts leaving yesterday's Unigate meeting at the Brewery on Chiswell Street, who found a coach waiting to whisk them to Tate & Lyle's briefing at Sugar Quays on the other side of the City. Unfortunately, for Tate & Lyle, the



"No, mother, nothing to do with Rover Group sweeteners."

Unigate meeting finished earlier than expected, but about 12 analysts took up the offer.

Keeping it loud

PANDEMONIUM broke out on County NatWest's international dealing floor yesterday afternoon when Harvey Wolf, a property consultant, proposed to Jenny Clark, a secretary on the food and stores desk, using the office intercom. "The champagne has been flowing," slurred an analyst who telephoned with the good news.

Rating on thin ice

WITH the British Telecom share issue reaching fever-pitch, the government and SG Warburg, its adviser, have found a novel way of letting off steam — on ice. A team from Warburg's corporate finance department met Treasury officials at Broadgate ice-rink on Tuesday for an evening of skating, and they have challenged each other to a game of broomball on December 9, the day in which dealings in the new BT shares are due to begin. However, those who witnessed the display say the Tre-

sury turned in an embarrassing performance, and one of their number steadfastly refused to take to the ice after donning his skates. They have two weeks to get their act together.

Thai-coon tips

THOSE in the City who find research circulars dull should subscribe to David Scott, who covers the Thai market for Robert Fleming. Tired of seeing visitors to Bangkok being fleeced by local traders, he has devoted his latest circular to the art of bargaining. How not to look like an obvious buyer, for instance. Never pick up anything and hold it in your hand, never allow your spouse to say "Oh that's nice", and never say how much you are prepared to pay. Work in a group. Get your friends to arrive on the scene and pretend to drag you away. The seller will see his chances dissolving and panic. Now, as for dealing in Thai shares...

On your bike

BORING they may be, but accountants know their priorities. Newly qualified expect a company car and annual bonus as a matter of course at a new job. It seems. Three quarters of respondents in a survey by Harrison Willis, the recruitment consultant, considered company cars an essential part of a package, and branded employers who do not provide them as "skinflints". There was little enthusiasm for schemes run by Body Shop and others that allow staff to choose between a company car and company bicycle. Unfazed by it all is John Vonk, a director of Harrison Willis, who cycles daily to Mayfair from his Clapham home clad in garish tones of yellow and pink.

JON ASHWORTH

BUSINESS LETTERS

Sceptics forget that Europe already has a central bank

From Mr Mario Kelly
Sir, I would like to speculate that the forex intervention by the Bundesbank was on behalf of the Bank of England. I am employed as a forex dealer, so if I may expand: by placing an order with "Buba" the "BOE" realised that any purchase of sterling would carry more clout, which it did. This, though, results in one huge yet missed admission by the Treasury and any Euro-sceptics: we already have one central bank of Europe; we already have one currency; we

Loss levy at Lloyd's

From Mr H. H. Marcus
Sir, Many "Names of Lloyd's" will share my delight to read in your today's column that "Lloyd's chief calls for fund to meet Names' excess losses", quoting the chairman, Mr David Cole-ridge, speaking on the Money Programme on November 24.

We have long campaigned for a change in policy whereby a point should be reached when Lloyd's will be able to tell us "enough is enough". For many of us, membership of Lloyd's has become an unmitigated disaster and a

Setting an example

From Mr Ian Bryant
Sir, Directors enjoyed a 142 per cent salary increase over the past ten years (your report on Directors' Rewards Survey, November 25).

During this period, top rates of income tax fell substantially, so the increase in take-home pay will have been over 200 per cent — about three times the increase in retail prices for the same per-

iod — thus proving that inflation starts at the top.

"Don't do as I do, but do as I say..."
Yours faithfully,
IAN BRYANT,
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SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	1 April 1990 to 14 Sept 1991 £ millions	Year ended 31 Mar 1990 £ millions	Year to 14 Sept 1991 £ millions
Turnover	4,877.4	2,774.7	3,510.4
Trading surplus	310.3	159.3	243.4
Net investment income	154.4	124.5	89.0
Profit before tax	464.7	283.8	332.4
Profit attributable to the company	306.1	187.6	219.8
Earnings per share	68.3p	41.9	49.0
Dividend per share	16.7p	11.0p	13.0p

* L audited figures, after deducting the result for the half year to September 1990 announced in November 1990 from the period results.

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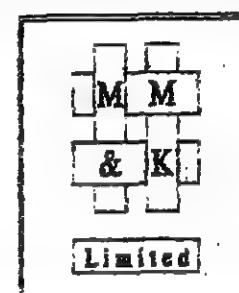
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Informal enquiries are welcome, please telephone Mr Graham Pelly, Director Of Finance ext 8713.

An information package is available from the Personnel Department, The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London WC1N 3BG. Telephone: 071-837 3611 ext 3046. Closing date: 16th December 1991.

Interviews will be held on 15th and 16th January 1992.

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SPORTS LETTERS

Council refuses rate relief

From the Chairman of Cleeve Rugby Football Club
Sir, Though making intense efforts to preserve amateur sport, we have again been refused rate relief by Kingswood Borough Council, our local authority.

The rules laid down in the government practice note make it clear that, provided a club satisfies perfectly reasonable criteria in respect of its membership and that it is truly non-profit-making, it should qualify for relief. Our club answers these criteria in every respect.

It is the main purpose of the organisation which should be the important factor, yet many local authorities, including Kingswood, are still determined to base their policies on whether or not a club has a bar to qualify for the relief that they are empowered to give. This despite the fact that they can reclaim 75 per cent of any grant by way of refund from central government.

Sport helps to teach young people qualities of self-discipline, responsibility to others and an awareness of personal fitness which provides in itself a powerful foil to less desirable activities. It also provides

a social life that mixes people from all walks of life, brought together for a common purpose with no regard for creed or colour.

Young people are constantly under attack for what they do wrong, but when volunteers in the community do something positive about it, instead of receiving the support they deserve, they have to spend a great deal of their free time raising money to pay these ludicrous bills.

Local councillors are elected to serve the best interests of their community, but whose interests are they serving by diminishing the efforts and ability of people who work for sport in providing facilities that are often not available from the state?

We have a youth membership of over 80 boys, ranging in age from six to 13. We hope to keep them in sport, where the only police that are needed are called referees, but our local councillors seem to be doing their best to make that virtually impossible.

Yours sincerely,
P. J. WARNE,
Chairman, Cleeve RFC,
Bromley Heath Road,
Downton,
Bristol, Avon.

Further afield

From Mr Graham Paterson
Sir, I am surprised to read, in your report of the hockey match between Southgate and Havant (November 25), that "Havant survived their first big test". Only a month ago, Havant conceded their only points so far in a 3-3

draw with Teddington. Since they were behind on three occasions in that game, it was at least a "big test", and they showed their character and ability by coming back each time.

Your hockey correspondent implies that there are only three clubs that matter — Havant, Hounslow and Southgate — and apparently gives little credit to the remaining sides in the National League, in particular East Grinstead, Teddington and Stourport, who are all close behind the leaders.

This attitude annoys many hockey followers in this country and I fear that the England manager and selectors may not look further afield, which could be detrimental to Britain's Olympic cause.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM PATERSON,
22 Grange Avenue,
Twickenham,
Middlesex.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046.

Punishment to fit crime

From Mr Mike Whittingham

Sir, The controversy regarding the case of Robert Hamilton-Jones, the club athlete banned for four years for failing to provide a sample for a drug test (report, November 16), exemplifies the pressures on athletics to address key issues in the modern world.

As a former athlete and now a national coach responsible for encouraging the proper development of the sport, I wholly support the commitment of both the old and new British athletics administration in issuing clear, loud messages regarding drugs and drug-testing procedures.

Inconsistencies or misunderstandings could lead to dangerous precedents being set, so that one is led to ask whether the sport has the correct system to ensure that the contrasting worlds of high performance and amateur athletics are carefully reconciled? In short, does the punishment meet the crime?

Magistrates courts and crown courts exist to deal with different levels of offence under the laws of the land. Athletics should make similar differentiation between the amateur, club athlete and the professional, who competes at international level. After all, the publicity surrounding the Hamilton-Jones case has already sent the right messages to all possible offenders.

Yours sincerely,
MIKE WHITTINGHAM,
Rhodes,
The Green,
Sands,
Farnham, Surrey.

Boxing policy

From Mr Lindsay James

Sir, Miss Cleland (November 21) makes a good point well. However, for the foreseeable future and certainly until there is some electoral mileage in it, boxing will remain legal. Miss Cleland will be outraged, the organisers will pick up the cash and the neurosurgeons will stay in work.

While the wealthier promoters (and let's not pretend that boxing is universally wealthy) may have suitable

Manchester is supported

From the Honorary Treasurer of the British Olympic Association

Sir, David Miller (November 22) claims that the support of the British Olympic Association towards Manchester's bid for the 2000 Olympic Games is, at best, "damagingly lukewarm" and its elected officers fail to show a united supportive front.

As one of those elected officers, may I remind you of the overwhelmingly supported resolution of the National Olympic Committee (i.e. the BOA) last April to back Manchester's bid to the hilt.

Last month we confirmed our full participation in the administrative structure for promoting the bid. It is a real commitment and the culmination of totally amicable and

The going rate

From Mr Peter D. Grundy

Sir, There still appears to be no hope of agreement between the bookmakers and the rest of the racing industry on who should fund the sport.

Lord Howard de Walden, the then senior steward, made the observation that the bookmakers got a first-class product from racing and it was about time they paid the going rate for it.

If this is true, and no one seems to be complaining about the actual substance of racing, the problem would seem to be one of marketing. I would, therefore, suggest that the best way to get full value for the product is not to enter into an exclusive contract with a cartel of your

financial provision in place, it would be constructive and, I suspect, possible for the British Boxing Board of Control to oblige boxers or their managers to lodge a policy of insurance against medical expenses at their headquarters and keep it in force as a precondition of permission to box legally. This may at least go part of the way to meeting Miss Cleland's complaint.

Yours truly,
LINDSAY KEITH,
1 Bedlam Street Cottages,
Bedlam Street,
Hurstpierpoint,
West Sussex.

detailed discussion with the bid committee and Manchester City Council.

Naturally there are concerns, shared independently by the prime minister, whose positive encouragement should not be belittled, that the bid must not only be a good one but also one that has a realistic chance of success. How one expresses those concerns must depend upon the individual, but I can confidently assert that none of our elected officers will be heard in any way resiling from the spirit or the support front displayed by the National Olympic Committee.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT WATSON,
(Honorary Treasurer,
British Olympic Association),
3 Temple Gardens, EC4.

customers, particularly if you are very much a minority shareholder in that consortium. The Racecourse Association should withdraw from Satellite Information Services (SIS) and let its members negotiate separately with the bookmakers course by course, meeting by meeting.

The racecourses should not be tricked into believing that there is no alternative to SIS. Provided a sponsor can be found, I believe there is enough spare capacity on satellite television to provide an alternative service for the public at home. This would enable people to bet via their switch cards into the on-course tote.

Bookmakers wanting to use these broadcasts would have to pay a licensing fee and this money could be used by the courses to enhance prize-money, the *lignum vitae* of horse racing.

Yours faithfully,
PETER D. GRUNDY,
24 Dartmouth Road, NW2.

Oxford blues

From Mr David Irons

Sir, Has it occurred before that, while Cambridge is right at the top, Oxford is at the very bottom? I refer, of course, to the second division of the Football League.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID IRONS,
Bryn Hyfryd, Llansadwrn,
Menai Bridge, Gwynedd.

RACING

Pillar voices concern in Desert Orchid debate

BY MICHAEL SEELY

PETER Pillar, the owner of Blazing Walker, joint-favourite at 7-2 with Remittance Man for the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day, yesterday expressed his concern about the wisdom of subjecting Desert Orchid to further racing after the grey's disappointing third to Sabin Du Loir at Huntingdon on Tuesday.

"I watched the race from Switzerland on SIS," said the 48-year-old Zurich-based industrialist, who has been Britain's leading National Hunt owner for the past two seasons. "It was extremely sad to see Desert Orchid beaten once again. He really tries and gives everything but if he were mine I would stop him now."

Pillar, an experienced man with horses, not only has 20 jumpers in training with Arthur Stephenson in Co. Durham, he also owns five show jumpers which he still rides competitively as an amateur. Opinion remains divided about the merit of Desert Orchid's Huntingdon effort. Stephenson commented: "Desert Orchid is not the horse he was. I know a sharp track like Huntingdon didn't suit him, but the way he was left behind at the third last suggests that he's lost just a bit of his spark."

Interestingly, most jockeys

are of the opinion that Desert Orchid will still take all the beating when the 12-year-old attempts to win his fifth King George. Peter Scudamore and Richard Dunwoody said as much at Huntingdon, and yesterday Neale Doughty commented: "It would be crazy to write Desert Orchid off. David Elsworth knows exactly what he's doing and he is sure to have left plenty to work on."

Elsworth, Desert Orchid's intuitively gifted trainer, is clearly feeling the strain of the situation: "Of course, he's not as good as he was but he may still be good enough to win another King George. He had a very hard race on Tuesday and unfortunately he



Stephenson doubts over Desert Orchid

needs a race like that to get him right nowadays. Getting a horse fit is a tough business."

The depressing element of the grey's gallant efforts at Huntingdon was the way in which he struggled so vainly to get to grips with Sabin Du Loir. And it was worrying to see him hesitant at several of his fences compared with his spectacular leaping in the past. The furious pace on a fast track was responsible for some of this hesitancy, but not altogether.

A personal view is that Desert Orchid will still go close to gaining that magical fifth victory on Boxing Day. He is in his element at Kempton and is still in better form than he was at the same time last year.

After that Richard Burridge and his joint owners, including his father, Jimmy, the horse's breeder will face an agonising decision. But win, lose or draw, it is difficult not to feel that he should be retired with dignity after Christmas. Desert Orchid has surely done enough.

Drum Taps has been sold to Japanese businessman Yoshio Asakawa following his unplaced run in the Japan Cup on Sunday but will stay in training in Britain with Lord Huntingdon next season.

Aintree offers record prizes

BY DICK HINDER

WHILE the racing industry still battles against the tide of recession, the Aintree management yesterday lightened the gloom with the announcement that added prize-money at the Grand National meeting next year will top £500,000 for the first time.

There will be a record level of £635,000 for the three-day meeting on April 2 to 4, with the Grand National worth an estimated £170,000. Announcing the news in London, Patrick Marrel reported that the sponsoring company would make a

£324,000 contribution towards the total £506,000 of added money.

John Parrett, clerk of the course at Aintree, outlining some fine tuning at the meeting, reported that the race conditions for the John Hughes Memorial Handicap Chase on the first day had been adjusted to include a rating band of 0 to 145 to encourage good chasers just below top class.

The Sandeman Magphail Novices' Chase (2m) has been switched to the Thursday with the Midday Novices'

Chase (3m 18) run on Friday to provide more variety in race distances for spectators.

The BBC's audience figure for this year's Grand National was £17½ million and, to enhance the coverage, the big event will now be the fourth race on the card, scheduled to start at 4.0pm.

Ivan Straker, of Seagram Distillers, stressed: "Eight years ago Aintree was in a mess but a fairy godmother came along in the form of Seagram. Now we welcome Marrel to continue a fine association."

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1.25 SALAMANCA APPRENTICE

NORTHWESTERN		SOUTHWESTERN		SOUTHEASTERN		MIDWESTERN		NORTHEASTERN	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16800	NORTHERN CONQUEROR 55 (D.F.G.)	T. Neughton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1141	TAKE'S DELIGHT 55 (P.G.S.)	Janey 49-10	D. Briggs 10	—	—	—	—	—	—
0128	CHANGES DIAMOND 14 (R.)	J. Spencer 35-10	G. Hunsford 4	—	—	—	—	—	—
0124	COULDER 55 (P.G.S.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
0136	MISTY MIRROR 17 (G.)	W. Jernoe 33-1	F. Morley 7	—	—	—	—	—	—
0134	MISTY GODDESS 56 (P.)	M. Arnes 34-10	K. Rutter 2	—	—	—	—	—	—
0105	CARPET SWISSER 21 (D.F.G.)	J. Benzel 54-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
0007	CUPPERS ROMANINE 17 (D.F.S.)	B. Baker 44-11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
0020	BLAZING FIRE 27 (M.)	N. Macintyre 34-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
0019	CHAMPION 55 (P.G.S.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5230	GO FURUM 22 (P.F.G.)	J. Spencer 56-8	J. Tate 38-10	—	—	—	—	—	—
0045	BALLERINA 54 28 (G.)	10 on 34-8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
0400	JUST ON 54 (R.)	W. Macintosh 34-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
0043	THE FINEST 55 (P.G.S.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Tara 5 Delight 72	Ballerina Bay 44	Princess Rosemary 5-1	Go Furum 5-1	Changes Diamond 10-1	Misty Goddesses 12-1	others		

1.55

CORUNNA HANDICAP

(£2,490, 11) [12]

1	0906	POLYHOLM 6.5.8.3.5.9.11	Channon 54.06	Linda Vincent 7
2	0331	THE BURNING 6.5.8.3.5.9.11	Donner 54.22	T Williams 15
3	0341	ANGLO-BOLE DOUBBLE 6.11.5.9.11	Gordon 59.9	M Ryan 6
4	0000	PIPS CLASSIC 14.1.1.1.1.1	Wagstaff 59.9	W Piles 11
5	0000	MAINTENANCE 5.11.5.9.11	W Pearce 58.4	R Sugrue 11
6	4100	LEADER 5.11.5.9.11	W Pearce 58.2	T O'Brien 3
7	0000	DARTMOUTH EXECUTIVE 5.11.5.9.11	W Pearce 58.4	R Sugrue 11
8	4100	LEADER 5.11.5.9.11	W Pearce 58.2	T O'Brien 3
9	0000	MAINTENANCE 5.11.5.9.11	W Pearce 58.4	R Sugrue 11
10	4100	LEADER 5.11.5.9.11	W Pearce 58.2	T O'Brien 3
11	0000	MAINTENANCE 5.11.5.9.11	W Pearce 58.4	R Sugrue 11
12	4100	LEADER 5.11.5.9.11	W Pearce 58.2	T O'Brien 3
13	1835	WILL HE OR WON'T HE 10.11.11.11	C Alan 35.15	0.25 Duns 5
14	0000	SCOTLAND 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
15	0000	SCOTLAND 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
16	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
17	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
18	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
19	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
20	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
21	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
22	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
23	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
24	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
25	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
26	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
27	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
28	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
29	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
30	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
31	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
32	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
33	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
34	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
35	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
36	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
37	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
38	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
39	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
40	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
41	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
42	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
43	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
44	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
45	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
46	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
47	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
48	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
49	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
50	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
51	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
52	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
53	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
54	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
55	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
56	0000	ANTHONY 14.1.1.1.1.1	R Sullivan 59.5	D Beger 28.4
57	0000			

[illegible]

2.25 RADAOJO HANDICAP (22,688.7) (11)

1	1003	BOLD HARTY 14 Cds/GS W Pearson & D-G Husband 6-7	W Pearson
2	9646	WAVE WA 14 Cds/GS 10 Pearson 5-9	G Duffell
3	5034	PITCHLYN HART 14 Cds/DJ Ross 4-9	W Husband
4	2973	STATE GOVERNOR 16 Cds/Gates 4-9	W Pearson
5	1000	THE LAST OF THE SUMMER 16 Cds/GS 5-9	F Horton
6	5019	SEB-SEA 31 W/Cds/DJ Ross 17-13	G Rutter
7	1000	THE SHAMAHAN BAY 16 Cds/GS 10 W Husband 6-7	W Pearson
8	0850	LUCY DANCER 16 Cds/GS McCombs 3-7-9	G Barwood
9	1000	WAVE WA 14 Cds/GS 10 Pearson 5-9	F Horton
10	0000	PUREST STREET BOY 31 Cds/DJ Rutter 5-7-7	A Fox
11	2880	GRACE HIGH 29 (S) 10 Cds 4-7-7	A Adams

52-10000 on Y No. 7-2 Cds/En Cds. 6-7 Bats 1000 9-1 others.

2.55 BUSACIO RIDGE MAIDEN STAKES (2-V-O; £2,695.57)

1	4250	APPEALING TIMES 4 W G Gorman 5-0	W Pearson
2	1000	WAVE WA 14 Cds/GS 10 Pearson 5-9	G Duffell
3	0000	JARMIC 70 P Hilda 6-7	W Ryan
4	0000	CAMINO A ROMA 6-7	N Newton
5	0000	THE LAST OF THE SUMMER 16 Cds/GS 5-9	F Horton
6	0000	INDIGO BLUE 28 W Cds/Gates 6-9	W Pearson
7	0000	WALKINGHOM 10 Cds/Gates 6-9	W Pearson

9-4 Better Counts. 100-30 Appealing Times. 6-7 Indigo Blue. 9-1 others.

3.25 ALMARAZ NURSERY HANDICAP (2-V-O; £2,551.1m) (12)

1	4440	DONNIN SPRT 7-4 Hase 6-7	W Ryan
2	0001	SYBARITIC SAND 21 Cds/GS Pearson 5-4	A Fox
3	0001	LOVE YOUR NAME 14 Cds/GS 10 Pearson 5-9	F Horton
4	0061	LYLEVILLE 048 14 Cds/GS 10 Ross 5-9	W Pearson
5	1250	JARLY EARLY 11 W Cds/GS 10 Pearson 5-9	G Barwood
6	0001	THE LAST OF THE SUMMER 16 Cds/GS 10 Pearson 5-9	F Horton
7	0001	THE LAST OF THE SUMMER 16 Cds/GS 10 Pearson 5-9	F Horton
8	0001	LADY ST LAWRENCE 21 W Cds/GS 10 Pearson 5-9	F Horton
9	0001	LINEHMAN 14 Cds/GS 10 Pearson 5-9	F Horton
10	0001	JACK BEYOUZ 23 Drown Jones 8-8	W Pearson

2.00 ROBERTS PLANT AND HAULAGE

NOVICES Haulage CHASE (#2-840: 2m 3p) (14):

- 1 LME IN HORSE B&G (J) Mummy Simon-B14-11 M Rong
- 2 LME IN HORSE B&G (J) Mummy Simon-B14-11 M Rong
- 3 MASTER SOUTH (ADY T) Hutton-T16-6 C Gaudin
- 4 MARTIN DEBATE (ADY T) Hutton-T16-6 C Gaudin
- 5 LADY SUPREMACY (P) W. Twicken-D14-10 M Gaudin
- 6 MONTESSICOMBE (3 F) Mrs. P. Wren-P10-11 M Wren
- 7 NORAL HARBOUR (H) ELSA G. Gaudin-B17-7 C Gaudin
- 8 KILLISLAND LAD 202 Mc E. Whymant D9-11 M

9 45MR MOORE COOL (L) V1 Hobbs-B10-8 Mr J Whymant D9-11
10 45MR VANDER 15 P Nicholas-G104 D Treg

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40 MUEBANK P Hobbs 5-10-10
 MY LAMS SH'D E Elsom 5-10-10
 MATCH R A R P 6-10-10
 40 ROYAL SCOTS S M McPhee Duffield 4-10-10
 2 PIPER'S DREAM T M Muggleton 4-10-10

94 My Life
 Duch: B1 Muhsnik, 11-1 Hovener, 7-2 Gasser, Lesson, 6-1 Lo

3.00 HAYRAGS NOVICES CHASE

(Div I: £2,089; 3pt) (7)

- 1-30 BRONCH BARLEY 10-10 J Roberts 2-11-2
- 2-30 WINDING WINGS 10-10 J Murray Smith 7-11-2
- 3-30 CRYSTAL CLEAR 10-10 C Popham 6-11-2
- 4-30 IT'S A LONG WAY TO K (K) C Popham 6-11-2
- 5-30 JUNIOR PARKER 2-11-2 J Edwards 7-11-2
- 6-30 FLYING FOR THE FIRST TIME 10-10 N Williams
- 7-30 FLYING FOR THE FIRST TIME 10-10 N Williams
- 8-30 FIELD CRACKER 2-11-2 J Tucker 10-10-1
- 9-30 KELLYNANT 2-11-2 G Ham 10-11-1

Banned Card: 11-4 Junior Parker, 9-2 Kellynnt, 6-1 Power

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3.30 SOUTH-WEST RACECOURSES

AMATEURS SERIES HANDICAP HURDLE

(£1,577; 2m 3) (12)

1 011- TON CLAPTON 194 (F, 5J) M Oakes 4-120
 2 1383 WHISTLING GIPSY 37 (F, 5J) Mrs S Oakes 5-111
 3 PP1 BROMBOLL ROSE 614 (F, 5J) Overwood 6-114 Mr R Brath
 4 2207 DODD DASH 100 (F, 5J) Overwood 6-114 Mr R Brath
 5 KAI KAIR 195 (F, 2) Baker 10-20 Mr J Farrant
 6 P40 EMBERS WARRIOR 8 (F, 5J) Booder 8-104 Mr R Dimes
 7 171 LONN 91 (F, 5J) Overwood 8-103 Mr J Southcombe
 8 600 FRESHMINT 15 (F, 5J) P. Hedges 10-104 Mr M Houghton
 9 600 BRIGHT SAPPHERE 9 (F, 5J) J Thomas 10-104 Mr M Houghton

1 504 SPITFIRE HOPKINS 8 (F, 5J) P. Hedges 5-104 NON-RUNNER
 11 SP4 WINDSWEPT 14 (F, 5J) P. Hedges 5-104 Mr R Pines
 12 SP25 ARIAN VISION 17 (F, 5J) Overwood 5-100 Mr J. Llewellyn

5-2 Ton Clapton, 7-2 Mr Lonn, 5-1 Nordic Delight, 6-1 Whistling Gipsy, 8-1 Bromboll Rose, 14-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pigg, 46 winners from 167 runners, 27.5%
 Mrs J Pigg, 4 winners from 16 runners, 25%
 2 2207 D. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%
 3 600 J. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%
 4 2207 D. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%
 5 600 J. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%
 6 600 J. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%
 7 600 J. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%
 8 600 J. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%
 9 600 J. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%
 10 600 J. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%
 11 600 J. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%
 12 600 J. Hafferty, 3 winners from 18, 16.6%

TODAY'S THREE MEETINGS

1.30 (2m 3) hds) 1, Knighton Court
 Mr R. Farrant, 100-30-70 2, Anna Valley
 Mr R. Farrant, 100-30-70 3, Major League
 (33-1) 71 ran Mr N. Little, 50-20-10
 4, Major League (33-1) 71 ran Mr N. Little, 50-20-10
 5, Major League (33-1) 71 ran Mr N. Little, 50-20-10
 6, Major League (33-1) 71 ran Mr N. Little, 50-20-10
 7, Major League (33-1) 71 ran Mr N. Little, 50-20-10
 8, Major League (33-1) 71 ran Mr N. Little, 50-20-10
 9, Major League (33-1) 71 ran Mr N. Little, 50-20-10
 10, Major League (33-1) 71 ran Mr N. Little, 50-20-10
 11, Major League (33-1) 71 ran Mr N. Little, 50-20-10
 12, Major League (33-1) 71 ran Mr N. Little, 50-20-10

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pine, 46 winners from 167 runners, 27.5%
W 4, 41.4%
D Murphy-Stra, 3 from 18, 19.8%
G Ham, 5 from 28, 17.9%
R Holder, 3 from 51, 17.6%

JOCKEYS: N Mann, 6 winners from 25 runners, 24.0%
W 4, 41.4%
D Mann, 4 from 20, 20.0%
M Pinner, 3 from 15, 20.0%
S Burroughs, 5 from 27, 18.5%
M Richards, 3 from 20, 15.0%

FRIDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Into The Future (5 Turf)
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Samaranch must act on Helmick evidence



Helmick under fire

Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and his executive board colleagues have to bite the bullet. Evidence put before them this week on the financial and ethical conduct of Robert Helmick, the United States member of the executive board, is so damning that there is little alternative to requesting Helmick's resignation at the formal board meeting in Lausanne on Wednesday.

Helmick, who resigned as president of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) in September, following exposure of personal deals worth \$300,000 (about £168,000) on Olympic-related affairs, could pre-empt the board's action by voluntary withdrawal in the next few days.

No executive board member

DAVID MILLER

has ever been dismissed but the IOC's ethical reputation is so under fire that firm authority cannot be side-stepped here.

The report of the special counsel to the USOC executive committee, presented by Arnold I. Burns, the former United States deputy attorney general — indicts Helmick, who is also a former president of the international swimming federation (FINA), on eight counts:

- Failure to subordinate personal interests to those of the Olympic movement.
- Failure to serve without personal gain.
- Failure to avoid institutional loss or embarrassment.
- Failure to enhance public trust and confidence in the USOC.

□ Failure to avoid the appearance of conflict of interest.

□ Using USOC authority and influence for private benefit.

□ Failure to exhibit loyalty and candour.

□ Placing at risk the confidentiality of USOC information.

The report states that, while Helmick did not seek to influence other USOC officers or staff, he repeatedly violated conflict-of-interest provisions "without adequate or, in several cases, any disclosure".

Six weeks before signing a marketing agreement as USOC president, Helmick had signed a private retainer agreement with the same company. The report concludes: "We believe Mr Helmick has under-estimated the seriousness of his conduct".

Before the IOC executive board meets next week, its own commission of three lawyers — Keba M'Baye, of Senegal, Marc Hodler, of Switzerland, both IOC members, and Francois Carrard, the director general — have to decide to what extent, legally, the findings of the Burns commission apply to the IOC. That seems to me a mere matter of detail. As an international Olympic figure of credibility, Helmick is effectively dead in the water.

Samaranch must be aware that the world is watching. And waiting. With acknowledged corruption by a small minority of IOC members in the electoral voting process for host cities, there is an urgent need to visibly demonstrate the IOC's probity. The Helmick controversy, therefore, comes almost as a convenience for doing so.

Two regulations of the IOC Charter give clear guidance on Helmick's ineligibility. Rule 20, members, recruitment, sub-section six — "members may not accept... any mandate liable to bind them or interfere with the freedom of their action or vote". Cession, sub-section four — "a member may be expelled if the Session considers such member has neglected or knowingly jeopardised the interests of the IOC or acted in a way which is unworthy of the IOC" (my italics).

Samaranch's style on past controversies has sometimes been to lie low until the gunsmoke has cleared. That cannot work this time. Helmick's acceptance, either as executive board member or plain IOC member, will be seen as verification that, in the supposedly most hallowed of sporting bodies, anything goes.

It is a pity that the USOC has ducked the issue and not formally requested Helmick's replacement as one of its two IOC members; the other is Anita DeFrantz, the most obvious and well qualified as long-term successor as USOC president. The Charter requires IOC members, ex-officio, to be included by both national Olympic committees and Olympic Games organising committees in Games organising committees: in Helmick's case, Atlanta in 1996. The rupture of credibility runs wide. If Samaranch is looking to the USOC to bite the bullet, it has, perhaps predictably, passed the task to him. It would seriously undermine the stature of the executive board if responsibility for disciplinary action was now shelved and the matter was then raised from the floor at the Session in Albertville before the Winter Games in February.

Forwards profit from positive approach

Cambridge fall just short after spirited recovery

Cambridge Univ. 20
Steele-Bodger's XV 23

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

MICKEY Steele-Bodger's invitation side, stronger than for many years, ended a run of six successive defeats in the annual encounter at Grange Road yesterday, but the plaudits were for Cambridge University. Thirteen points down at the interval, their response was so positive that just a penalty goal, the only one attempted during the afternoon, stood between the teams at the finish.

Eighty minutes of vigorous movement lit up a misty Fenland day, much of it the product of the understanding between the two New Zealand centres, Craig Innes and Walter Little. Innes, indeed, scored two tries in the guest team's victory by two goals, two tries and a penalty goal to two goals and two tries, and their work underlined Little's curious omission from the All Blacks' back division for much of the World Cup.

The Light Blues appear in better order than their opposite numbers at Oxford. The teams for the University match are due to be announced on Monday, and Cambridge were close to their optimum XV. Decisions have to be made at centre and in the back row, and they will hope that Adrian Davies, their captain, is fit.

Davies had hoped to play yesterday but decided not to risk his damaged neck. All in all it was not a great day for the Davies family since his brother, Lloyd, failed to last

the course, leaving the field after a heavy tackle by Clough which left him winded, though Lloyd Davies at least had the satisfaction of having sent Given on his way to the university's second try.

As encouraging as anything was the university's forward play. They dominated the lineout, even against the lanky Bayfield, who found Dix, the Australian, a rare handful. Sheasby's jumping at No. 8 was productive, and he has the support of Peters, a much-improved player. The tight forwards also covered the field well in support of their back row, and it was apposite that Dix should have registered the third try when Given was held on the short side of a scrum.

The guest XV may have felt that 13-0 up at half-time and with various guns at their disposal, victory was assured. Hunter had an outstanding first half, seeing more attacking ball in 40 minutes than he has with Northampton all season, before a strained calf muscle which has niggled him for weeks produced a bout of cramp and a switch with Little to the midfield.

Hunter's insertion gave Halliday the chance to send in Innes for the first try, and the same players paved the way for a try on the short side of a scrum by Francescato, the lively Italian scrum half. Dominguez added a penalty but Cambridge were encouraged by Price's confident play and an increasing coherence to their driving forward play.

The stand-off half made the little dart which, improved by Underwood and Dix, led to de Maid's try. Innes crossed for his second after Little

stood up well in a tackle, but Given's check and inside switch baffled Hunter and kept Cambridge noses to the wheel. Bates was just beaten to the touch after charging down Dominguez's kick, but the try came, none the less, from Dix following the scrum.

Steele-Bodger's XV suggested a capacity for producing a score when required after Francescato darted away with a tapped penalty. Halliday supported and despite de Maid's excellent cover tackle, was able to send in Hunter. The last word was emphatically Cambridge's: Peters turned Bayfield over, de Maid chipped into space and Underwood, captain for the day and the hardest of workers, seized the ball from under Pegler's nose to score his seventeenth try of the season.

SCORERS: Cambridge University: Tries: De Maid, Given, Dix, Underwood. Conversion: Jones. Goals: M. R. Steele-Bodger's XV: Tries: Innes, Francescato, Hunter. Conversion: Dominguez. Goals: Penalty goal: Dominguez. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: "A" Panton, King, Panton, Coventry and St. Edwards. "B" Given, Clough, Jones, L. Davies, Francescato, CS and St. Edwards. "C" N. Robinson, King, Edwards, V. Morgan and Hughes. "D" St. Johnstone (RGS Newcastle and Magdalen). "E" Underwood (Barnard Castle and St. Edmund's), G. Price (Abingdon and St. Edmund's), M. de Maid (Ludlow and St. Edmund's), M. Hughes (Hull), B. Davies (Brisbane GS and St. Edmund's), G. Price (Wimbledon College and Hughes Hall), M. Chapman (Eastbourne College and Trinity), E. Peters (Greenwood and Hughes Hall), M. Durbin (Blackwell and Queens'), D. Dix (Oxford, Sydney and Hughes Hall), C. Bates (Rugby and Hughes Hall), "C" Sheasby (Rugby and Hughes Hall). M. R. STEELE-BODGER'S XV: I. Hunter (Northampton), "F" Clough (Worcester and England), captain, C. Innes (Bedford and New Zealand), W. Little (Rugby and New Zealand), "G" Halliday (Harlequins and England), G. Dominguez (Man and Italy), I. Francescato (Italy and Italy), M. Little (Moseley and England), M. Barry (Old Gravesendians), P. Burnell (London Scottish and Scotland), D. Pegler (London Irish), N. Edwards (Harlequins), M. Bayfield (Northampton and England), "H" Black (Leicester), "R" Pool-Jones (Barnet). Referee: A. Spradford (Somerset). "A" Blue



Defence breached: Halliday evades a Cambridge tackler yesterday

Staples attacks English extremism

BY PETER BILLS

THE continual public haranguing of the English authorities by players for their reluctance to sanction commercial freedom for the international squad is in danger of becoming counter-productive, according to Jim Staples, the Irish international.

The full back said yesterday that the English players' policy of trying to knock down the door to commercialism risked provoking greater intransigence.

Staples said: "England are in the driving seat, trying to knock the door down. They seem set on revolution. Scotland are trying to chip away at it more quietly, and that may be the better plan."

"Sometimes if you overstate your case you lose some of the goodwill. I accept that it is very hard for someone who has been involved for years and has lost money because of the game to accept the situation."

"I have great sympathy for Mike Teague, who is self-

employed and has lost a lot of money. But not all are self-employed like him. Several have received salaries while they have been away. I know because I did from my company during the World Cup."

"The England players have been quoted everywhere about this and by continuously referring to the issue they may make it even more difficult. I am not sure those in charge will now be prepared to back down."

Staples denied suggestions that the Irish Rugby Club

squad was to be handed thousands of pounds by their union for missed commercial opportunities at the time of the tournament. He admitted that the players had hoped to receive a small amount, but said a figure of £200 a man was more realistic.

Relations between the Irish players and the Irish Rugby Football Union were as good now as they had ever been, Staples said. "We get on a lot better with our union than the England players seem to do with theirs."

Bainbridge recalled to reshuffled pack

STEVE Bainbridge, the second-row forward who won 18 caps for England between 1982 and 1987, returns at lock as Newcastle Gosforth make two changes for their third-round Pilkington Cup tie at home to Ruislip on Saturday.

Bainbridge replaces Alistair Meadows, while Richard Arnold, the New Zealander, returns in the back row.

Peter Walton, who has been struggling with an ankle

injury, drops down to sit on the replacements' bench.

Orell has dropped their flanker, Dave Cleary, for the cup tie against Camborne at Edge Hall Road. Sean Gallagher takes over while Cleary is named as one of the replacements.

Gerry Ainscough is unavailable, so his fellow England B cap, Martin Street, retains the stand-off half position.

SPORTS POLITICS

Council calls for government to pledge backing

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

MINDFUL that a general election is only months away, the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR) yesterday published a manifesto for sport.

Its seven-point plan — announced at the outset of the CCPR's annual conference in Bournemouth — is designed to restore the financial well-being of sport, while re-establishing sporting opportunities for British children.

The manifesto calls for all political parties to pledge their commitment to:

- the introduction of mandatory rate relief for all sports clubs and associations which operate without profit for the good of their communities.
- relief of corporation tax levies on sport's national voluntary governing bodies.
- introduction of a pound-for-pound sports sponsorship incentive scheme similar to that available for the arts.
- removal of value-added tax (VAT) charges on youth sports club membership (the CCPR estimates that this would relieve children of £2.5 million in excess costs).
- an immediate embargo on school playing field sell-offs.
- the abolition of the DES regulation 909 — this was introduced by the then education minister, Neil Macfarlane, designed to allow school playing fields to be sold for development.
- introduction of out-of-



BOURNEMOUTH CONFERENCE

pocket expense payments for school teachers willing to take charge of extra-curricular sporting activities.

Peter Lawson, general secretary of the CCPR, said: "If parliamentarians, as well as the people of this country, want to see children taken off the streets and into sports, then direct action along these lines must be taken. British sport is top of the European sports tax league and is suffering from government indifference and neglect. Sport is the art of the masses and should be helped, not hampered, by politicians."

Lawson said that for every £1. given in government grants, £5 is taken back in some sort of tax. "It is a nonsense that the government takes money from the body and then that body has to go back to the government asking for a grant."

However, Lawson counselled caution in the campaign for a lottery to fund sport. "Sport would have to have cast-iron guarantees that the government would actually direct money made from a lottery into sport."

Clubs assuming responsibility

THE assumption that school is the best breeding ground for Britain's sports participants of the future came under challenge in Bournemouth yesterday (Louise Taylor writes).

As the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR) conference kicked off with a debate on the future of British sport, Lord Addington, who is responsible for the Liberal Democrats' line on sporting issues in the House of Lords, said teachers can no longer be expected to fashion champions of tomorrow.

Lord Addington said: "I am of the opinion that we may have passed the day when school sport, and school team sport in particular, formed the crux of competitive youth sport."

"I believe small sports clubs may represent sport's best future. They are more likely than schools to have greater access to expertise."

"But for clubs to fulfil this role there will need to be a high degree of integration and co-ordination between local authorities, schools and clubs in the pursuit of participation and excellence in sport."

Lord Addington cited the increasing popularity of mini-rugby among children as an initiative successfully implemented by junior sports clubs. In the administrative sphere, the Liberal Democrats would like to reform the Sports Council. He said they would like to create an independent body removed from government control.

REAL TENNIS

Fahey's calm helps pull back deficit

THE talented young Australian, Robert Fahey, survived a three-hour struggle to defeat the former world champion, Chris Ronaldson, in five sets in the quarter-finals of the George Wimpey British Open championship yesterday (Sally Jones writes).

Fahey, one of the most powerful volleyers in the game, trailed by two sets to one, thanks to some fine tactical play by Ronaldson. But in the end it was Fahey's extra speed around the court and nerveless calm on big points which gave him victory. The favourite, Lachie Deuchar, looked awesome in his dismissal of the New York professional, Mike Gooding, with the loss of just four games.

RESULTS (British unless stated). Second round: K. Sheldon to M. Happort (Aust), 6-2, 6-4, 6-2; C. Bray to N. Wood, 6-2, 6-2, 6-1. Quarter-finals: L. Deuchar (Aust) to M. Gooding, 6-2, 6-0, 6-2; R. Fahey (Aust) to C. Ronaldson, 6-2, 6-6, 6-6, 6-3, 6-4.

SQUASH RACKETS

Soutter sets sights on tasting success again

BY COLIN MCQUILLAN

LUCY Soutter has rediscovered her appetite for squash. The former world junior and British champion, whose form nosedived after viral problems two years ago, is ready to taste success once again in the women's game.

From the heady days of world titles and topping the national rankings, she holds fourteenth place in the world and joint fourth on the England list. That may change for the better, though.

She is working with Ian McKenzie, the coach with whom she dominated junior squash and took her first national title in 1985, and she has relented on a commitment to vegetarianism to include some red meat in her diet again. It is all part of a rebuilding programme after almost collapsing from a viral

infection on the Asian circuit two summers ago.

Soutter is playing a second season as first string for Lecon-Solent in the SRA Women's Superleague. Despite losing comprehensively to Martine Le Moignan, the England No. 1, this week, she is optimistic.

"I played well within the new pattern I have established for myself until Martine's strength and confidence took over," she said. "I have laid back off the game for a while but now I have the appetite to compete again."

RESULTS: SRA Women's Superleague: Talking Pages Windsor 3, Lecon-Solent 0 (M. Le Moignan to L. Soutter, 9-4, 9-4, 9-4; 3. Wright to L. Chapman, 9-9, 9-4, 9-9, 9-9; S. Fitzgerald to C. Wall, 9-2, 9-3, 9-0; Reebok Nottingham 1, Moseley Priory 2 (S. Hopper to M. Martin, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-2; R. J. Martin to S. Langley, 9-9, 9-1, 9-3, 9-0; L. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 1. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 2. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 3. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 4. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 5. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 6. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 7. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 8. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 9. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 10. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 11. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 12. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 13. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 14. Leach to B. Brown, 9-9, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; 15. Leach to B. 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No-risk strategy sees Finn secure Lombard RAC Rally victory and his third world championship

Kankkunen coasts home in style

BY STEPHEN SLATER

Juha Kankkunen, driving a Lancia Delta Integra, returned to Harrogate last night to gain his third Lombard RAC Rally victory and become the first driver to win the world championship three times.

Kankkunen, aged 32, from Finland, had to contend with dense fog as the cars contested the final four stages of the rally through the forests of North Yorkshire. He paid tribute to his co-driver, Juha Piironen, whose time-keeping had allowed him to pace the race perfectly, keeping risks to a minimum as he maintained his lead over the Mitsubishi Galant of Kenneth Eriksson, of Sweden, and the driver Kankkunen deposed as champion, Carlos Sainz, of Spain.

Sainz, who needed to beat Kankkunen to keep his title, had lost the battle for the lead on Tuesday night, when both the radiator and rear suspension of his Toyota were damaged as the treacherous conditions turned the dark Kielder Forest into a scrapyard, with only 84 of the original 152 cars managing to survive. Quick work by the Toyota mechanics allowed Sainz to return to Harrogate in the early hours of yesterday morning still in third place, but six minutes behind Kankkunen.

When the cars were flagged away by the sports minister, Robert Atkins, to start the final leg, the Spaniard seemed resigned to losing his crown as the Lancia team offered every assistance to Kankkunen. In a masterstroke of team planning, the Lancia Delta of the former rally leader, Didier Auriol, who had dropped to twelfth place after sliding off on one

of the Kielder stages, overtook several cars on the road section of the first special stage of the day, and tucked in behind Kankkunen to follow him through the forest.

The move resulted in the French driver incurring time penalties for arriving ahead of his schedule at the controls, but it meant that should Kankkunen have suffered any problems, help would have been immediately at hand. Assistance was not needed, however, as Kankkunen maintained a six-minute advantage over Sainz. Eriksson and his Mitsubishi colleague, Timo Salonen, of Finland, finished second and fourth respectively. They praised the stability of their cars, which use a complex system of four-wheel drive and four-wheel steering to give added security on the forest tracks.

In fifth place, the sole surviving Rothmans Subaru of Ari Vatanen suffered a problem in the later stages, but finished ahead of the Ford Sierra of French driver Francois Delecour, who incurred time penalties after being stopped by the north Yorkshire police on his midnight return from Kielder.

After the spectacular rise and demise of Colin McRae, whose Subaru led the rally before crashing out, the top British driver was Louise Allen-Walker, who finished tenth despite suffering severe pain after straining her hand on the heavy-duty gear change of her four-wheel drive Ford Sierra Cosworth.

Another leading prospect in British rallying, Robbie Head, aged 23, finished eleventh after dominating the Group N category for show-room standard cars in his



Emerging victorious: Kankkunen and his co-driver, Piironen, complete a stage yesterday

Ford Sierra. The young Scot, who is a former schoolmate of McRae, completed the rally 24 minutes ahead of his nearest challenger.

The Vauxhall Nova of Richard Moore and William Sturrock, who had started the rally with no spares after more than £30,000 worth of parts were stolen from their service van, was still running

at the start of the day after other competitors had loaned parts to keep them in the event. Sadly, though, their rally came to an end when the engine failed just two special stages from the finish. However, the similar car of the BBC Rally Quest competition prize-winner, Francine Bogg, completed the event in 67th position.

RESULTS: 1. J. Kankkunen and J. Piironen (Fin), Lancia Delta, 5hr 46min 43sec; 2. K. Eriksson and S. Parmanen (Fin), Mitsubishi Galant, 5hr 50min 33sec; 3. C. Sainz and L. Moya (Spain), Toyota Celica, 5hr 52min 43sec; 4. T. Salonen and V. Salonen (Fin), Mitsubishi Galant, 5hr 58min 34sec; 5. A. Vatanen (Fin) and B. Berglund (Swe), Subaru Legacy, 5hr 59min 50sec; 6. F. Delecour and D. Gressat (Fr), Ford Sierra, 6hr 01min 40sec; 7. H. Mikkola (Fin) and J. Johansson (Swe), Mazda 323, 6hr 03min 41sec; 8. D. Auriol (Fr) and K. Wicky (Ger), Toyota Celica, 6hr 04min 44sec; 9. B. Sainz and J. Fautsch (Fr), Lancia Delta, 6hr 10min 10sec; 10. L. Allen-Walker (GB) and C. Thorne (Swe), Ford Sierra, 6hr 12min 13sec; 11. R. Head and C. Roy, Ford Sierra, 6hr 22min 13sec; 12. M. Salonen and J. Gressat, Vauxhall Nova, 6hr 23min 13sec.

ATHLETICS

McColgan chance of revenge

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

OLGA Bondarenko, the Olympic 10,000 metres champion, will take on Liz McColgan, the world 10,000 metres champion, in the County Durham cross country meeting at Beamish on December 28.

Bondarenko, of the Soviet Union, outperformed McColgan for the Olympic title in Seoul, but missed the world championships last summer, taking longer than the Scot to get back into her running stride after childbirth. Meanwhile McColgan, a mother of only nine months at the time, tore the field apart in Tokyo.

Bondarenko has been getting acquainted with competition again this autumn by racing on the roads in Britain — she was third in the Great London Run in September and won the Great South Run last month. It is a rare chance to see McColgan race in Britain after her triumphs abroad, including victory in the New York marathon three weeks ago.

They will be racing over 3,000 metres: it will be interesting to see whether McColgan has developed the sustained speed to counter the sheer pace of Bondarenko, which was the Scot's undoing in Seoul.

SNOOKER

Reynolds regains his confidence

BY PHIL YATES

DEAN Reynolds, who has beaten John Parrott three times in five professional meetings, once again proved an awkward opponent for the world champion during the first session of their UK Open quarter-final at the Guild Hall in Preston yesterday.

Reynolds, the world No. 12, regained his composure after a dreadful start to draw level with Parrott at 4-4 at the end of the afternoon session. It was the first time in four matches at the tournament that Parrott had shown signs of vulnerability.

Although Reynolds once held a 3-0 lead over Parrott in career meetings, thoughts of their most recent match — a 5-1 defeat in the last 16 of the Dubai Classic in October — must have intruded before play commenced.

An opening frame in which he potted only one ball, and Parrott compiled breaks of 58 and 54, did little to dissolve any self-doubt Reynolds may have developed since Dubai. In that respect, the second frame was more damaging.

Parrott, attempting to join Stephen Hendry and Steve Davis as a simultaneous holder of the world and UK titles, recovered from a 54-15 deficit with a 37 break before adding pink and black for 2-0. When Parrott, the world

No. 4, made a decisive 62 break in the third, Reynolds's prospects were indeed bleak.

However, he opened his account in the fourth frame and a 106 break in the next — only the second century he has made all season — shifted the burden of pressure on to Parrott's shoulders.

The sixth frame, a disjointed affair, was resolved when Reynolds potted a long pink, and the 1988 English professional champion extended his winning streak to four frames with runs of 55 and 40. With Reynolds leading for the first time at 4-3, Parrott's defences were exposed.

Parrott, badly needing to regroup, did just that in the final frame of the session. Exploiting his first clear-cut scoring opportunity, he fashioned a 50 break to level at 4-4. He was left requiring five of the remaining nine frames to equal his previous best UK Open run — a semi-final place in 1986 and 1990.

Jimmy White, ranked one place above Parrott, survived a series of unforced errors to establish a 5-3 lead over Neal Foulds in a session full of mistakes from both players.

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Border betters Gavaskar's total of Test appearances

Brisbane — Allan Border will set a record for Test match appearances when he leads Australia in the first Test against India starting here tomorrow.

Border will play his 126th Test, eclipsing the record held by Sunil Gavaskar, the former Indian batsman. Gavaskar will be in the crowd to see his record broken.

The match will be Border's 63rd as captain. Aged 36, Border has not missed a Test since 1979, and has averaged 52.3 runs per innings, and 22 half-centuries.

Ironically, he has his worst Test average (32.7) at Brisbane, where he plays for Queensland. Border has not scored a century since 1988, at Faisalabad in the series against Pakistan, but has scored 18 half-centuries since then.

He is regarded as one of the best thinkers in cricket, and says that is one of the reasons for his longevity. "I am always trying to analyse the way the game is going," he said. "I'm never totally satisfied with my own performance. I always come off the ground and pick it to pieces. I try to play within certain limitations and if I am going well I will expand."

Border expects to play at least through the 1993 Ashes series with England.

India, meanwhile, have received a boost from an unexpected quarter. Kevin Mitchell, curator of the Gabba pitch, has laid out a perfect batting strip, instead of the green-top the Indians expected. Mitchell expects his first Test wicket to assist seam bowlers at the start, then settle down to aid strokeplay.

The talented Indian batsmen have struggled so far on the tour. They were bowled out for 64 by Western Australia in a one-day match, and suffered an innings defeat by New South Wales in less than three days. (Agencies)

Chris Lewis, the England

CRICKET

Success of Boycott's master class

BY MARTIN SEABY

GEOFF Boycott thinks England's top cricketers should take a leaf out of golfer Nick Faldo's book and rely more on expert tuition to prepare for Test cricket.

Yesterday Boycott completed a three-day session at Headingley's indoor school with batsmen selected for the winter tours to New Zealand and the West Indies and bemoans the fact that it was two years since he was last called upon.

"Golfers at the top of the tree are in constant touch

with their coaches as Faldo is with David Leadbetter. I think we should follow that course because good coaches can diagnose minor flaws which take on major proportions at Test level."

"I would like to see the people Mickey Stewart has picked out have more contact with players who have more experience than me. As it is, I haven't seen Alec Stewart since we prepared for the West Indian trip two years ago."

Chris Lewis, the England

all-rounder, is an immediate convert to the Boycott method. "I wish I could carry him round with me," he said. "Other people have identified problems in my technique but have not come up with the answer. Geoff's suggestions worked straight away."

Graham Gooch, the England captain, is so convinced of the efficacy of the Boycott master class that he has booked an extra session before the squad leaves for New Zealand on December 27.

Chris Lewis, the England

GOLF

Putting will hold key to success for Baker-Finch

FROM MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN MELBOURNE

IAN Baker-Finch is well aware that the game within a game — putting — could help him complete a memorable double by winning the Australian Open, which starts here on the Royal Melbourne course today.

He is hoping to emulate Jack Nicklaus, in 1978, and Bill Rogers, in 1981, by winning both the Open Championship and the Australian Open in the same year. His prospect of doing so has been much increased by the speed of the greens.

Greg Norman, who tore up his card after three-putting eight times in the pro-am, described them as unbelievable. "They look blue, like ice," he said. "If the north wind blows, as it can here, they will be impossible."

Baker-Finch, however, is acknowledged as having the finest putting stroke in the game today. He provided ample evidence of that at Royal Birkdale in July, when he distanced himself from his rivals in the final round of the Open by playing the outward

half in 29. That triumph has brought fame and fortune for him, although it has imposed pressure on his time. "I wouldn't want to change a thing but the responsibility of being Open champion has brought

a lot more requests for my presence at functions as well as tournaments," he said.

Even so, Baker-Finch would appear to be coping well. What is more, he showed his liking for Royal Melbourne 12 months ago when he scored 63 in the third round.

"I let myself down in the last round when I was too aggressive in a 76," he said. "But winning the Open has given me a lot of confidence, even though I still feel there is room for improvement."

Steven Richardson, fourth in the Australian PGA championship last year, will partner Baker-Finch while Colin Montgomerie and Ronan Rafferty play with Norman and Rodger Davis respectively.

Rafferty and Norman have struggled this season. Rafferty, first in the Volvo Order of Merit in 1989, finished 35th this year. Norman, the leading money-winner on the US PGA Tour last year, finished 53rd this year.

Norman said: "It's been a disappointing year. I've made a lot of mistakes and the biggest one was not practising as hard as I should have. I started working hard again two months ago and I'm feeling very good about myself and my game."

RUGBY LEAGUE

Dannatt to face board enquiry

BY KEITH MACKLIN

THE board of directors of the Rugby Football League will hold an enquiry on Wednesday into the incident at Hull on Saturday in which the Leeds and Great Britain loose forward, Ellery Hanley, suffered a broken jaw.

Andy Dannatt, the Hull front-row forward, who is cited by Leeds as having been involved in the incident, will appear before the enquiry, along with officials of both clubs. A videotape will be viewed and the board will decide whether to refer the matter to the League's disciplinary committee.

Meanwhile, the Leeds coach, Doug Laughton, was cleared by the League yesterday over claims that he influenced the referee's handling of a game against Featherstone Rovers earlier this month. Laughton was reported by Featherstone after he was seen talking to Ian Ollerston at half-time in the Stones Bitter championship match. Rovers had two players sent off after the interval and lost 26-20.

□ The Australian schoolboys side, which has lost only one of 50 matches since its formation in 1972, arrives in Britain today for an eight-match tour, including two internationals. The first game is against Northwest Counties at St Helens tomorrow night. □ Maurice Lindsay, president of the League, is to speak to British Amateur Rugby League Association officials this weekend as part of the continuing discussions between the two bodies. □ John Stringer, the general manager of Widnes, is leaving to return to Leigh as chief executive.

FOOTBALL

Strachan canny about Leeds and Scotland

BY IAN ROSS

GORDON Strachan refuses to discuss retirement, although his recent performances belie the notion that he has entered the twilight of an illustrious career.

Strachan, aged 34, is more inclined to reflect on the past than ponder the future. To do anything else would, in his own words, be to tempt fate. "It is so very hard to plan for the future in football," he said. "It is difficult, if not impossible, to say what is going to happen in the next 24 hours, never mind the next nine months or so."

"Yes, things are going well for me at the moment with Leeds United at the top of the first division and with Scotland having reached the European championship finals for the first time," he said at the launch of his autobiography, *Strachan Style — A Life in Football*.

"On a club level, I am more happy than excited. I am just pleased that the stigma which has been attached to Leeds United for the past 15 years has now gone. Our supporters are now behaving themselves and the team is playing good football."

"Qualifying for Sweden next summer is the most exciting thing to have happened to Scottish football for many years. We have a tremendous record in terms of reaching World Cup finals but perhaps people were becoming a little blasé about that. This is something new," he added. □ *Strachan Style — A Life in Football*, by Gordon Strachan and Ken Gallacher, is published today by Mainstream Publishing, £9.99.

Salenko strikes to give Kiev a flying start

Kiev — Oleg Salenko pounced on a poor back-pass from Gil Rui Aguas to score the goal that gave Dynamo Kiev a 1-0 victory over Benfica and the points in the new league final stages of the European Cup yesterday. (AFP)

□ Dave Bennett, the winger who is on loan at Shrewsbury Town, broke his leg on Tuesday night for the second time since signing for Swindon Town 14 months ago. Bennett, aged 32, suffered a double fracture of his right leg after scoring twice at Stockport for the club he joined last week.

□ Gordon Durie has cost

Tottenham Hotspur an extra £18,000 because the first division club were a week late in lodging a £250,000 payment for the former Chelsea forward, who cost £2.2 million. □ Julian Dicks, the West Ham United captain who has twice had surgery to his left knee, successfully fell through his first full game for 13 months yesterday when he played for the reserves against Ipswich Town.

□ Nottingham Forest have rejected an offer from Liverpool for Roy Keane, their Republic of Ireland international, who was being linked with an exchange deal involving Dean Saunders.

Leconte in singles

'annick Noah, captain of France's Davis Cup tennis team, yesterday named Henri Leconte as his second singles player for the final against the United States, which starts tomorrow on the Palais des sports indoor court in Lyons. Leconte joins Guy Forget in the singles. Noah said that he could probably play Forget and Leconte in the doubles on Saturday, but he left open the possibility of naming himself. The United States have named Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras in the singles, and a doubles team of Ken Flach and Robert Seguso.

Benn switch

Bonnie Darío Matteoni, of Argentina, has withdrawn from his super-middleweight bout with Nigel Benn, who will now meet Hector Lescano, of Argentina, in Manchester on December 7. Matteoni had weight problems. Lescano is the World Boxing Council No. 13.

□ Yuan Qinghai, the China team captain, at the world amateur championships, is in hiding in Sydney, seeking political asylum or refugee status.

LITTLEWOODS POOLS LIVERPOOL

THIS WEEK'S TOP MEN'S

£394,626 £398,891 £396,895

£394,626 £392,738 £392,738

LEAGUE CHANGE PAYING 6 DIVIDENDS

PTS £388,746.00

PTS £3,786.50

PTS £485.45

PTS £249.55

PTS £53.25

PTS £13.65

4 DRAWS £47.40

10 HOMES £879.35

5 AWAYS £150.85

Expenses and Commission 10 November 1991 - 30.7%

All dividends subject to rounding

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FOOTBALL

UEFA Cup Third round, first leg

SWAROVSKI (0) v LIVERPOOL (0) 2-0

OTHER RESULTS: AEL Athens 2, Torino 2

EUROPEAN CUP: Group B, Dynamo Kyiv 1, Benfica 0

NEVILLE OVERTEN COMBINATION: Chelsea 0, Tottenham 0; West Ham 2, Ipswich 2

CAPITAL LEAGUE: Cambridge United 3, Aldershot 0

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP (in Hong Kong): Semi-finals: Germany 2, United States 0; Sweden 2, France 0

EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN CUP: Final: Group A Uganda 2, Sudan 0 (in Kampala); Group B Zambia 3, Zimbabwe 2 (in Lusaka)

FA CUP: First round: Windsor and Eton 1, Watford 0; Reims 2, Chelsea 3; Chelsea 2, Watford 0; Tottenham 2, Arsenal 0; Tottenham 2, Arsenal 0; Tottenham 2, Arsenal 0

BARCLAYS LEAGUE: Second division: Wolves 2, Gillingham 1; Third division: Stockport 1, Shrewsbury 4

ZENITH DATA SYSTEMS CUP: Northern Ireland: Middleborough 0, Tyrone 1; Northern Ireland: Middleborough 0, Tyrone 1; Northern Ireland: Middleborough 0, Tyrone 1

GM VAUGHAN CONFERENCE: Barrow 2, Macclesfield 0; Rotherham 3, Bath 1; Rotherham 3, Bath 1

B AND Q SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Forth 0, Ayr 1

DAVIDSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedfordshire 1, Kingstonian 0; Bishop's Cleeve 1, Aylesbury 0; Bishop's Cleeve 1, Aylesbury 0

WILKINSON LEAGUE: First division: Wokingham 2, Harefield 1; Maidenhead 1, Maidenhead 1

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WOMEN'S WORLD CUP (in Hong Kong): Semi-finals: Germany 2, United States 0; Sweden 2, France 0

EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN CUP: Final: Group A Uganda 2, Sudan 0 (in Kampala); Group B Zambia 3, Zimbabwe 2 (in Lusaka)

FA CUP: First round: Windsor and Eton 1, Watford 0; Reims 2, Chelsea 3; Chelsea 2, Watford 0; Tottenham 2, Arsenal 0; Tottenham 2, Arsenal 0; Tottenham 2, Arsenal 0

BARCLAYS LEAGUE: Second division: Wolves 2, Gillingham 1; Third division: Stockport 1, Shrewsbury 4

ZENITH DATA SYSTEMS CUP: Northern Ireland: Middleborough 0, Tyrone 1; Northern Ireland: Middleborough 0, Tyrone 1; Northern Ireland: Middleborough 0, Tyrone 1

GM VAUGHAN CONFERENCE: Barrow 2, Macclesfield 0; Rotherham 3, Bath 1; Rotherham 3, Bath 1

B AND Q SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Forth 0, Ayr 1

DAVIDSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedfordshire 1, Kingstonian 0; Bishop's Cleeve 1, Aylesbury 0; Bishop's Cleeve 1, Aylesbury 0

WILKINSON LEAGUE: First division: Wokingham 2, Harefield 1; Maidenhead 1, Maidenhead 1

WILKINSON LEAGUE: Second division: Wokingham 2, Harefield 1; Maidenhead 1, Maidenhead 1

WILKINSON LEAGUE: Third division: Wokingham 2, Harefield 1; Maidenhead 1, Maidenhead 1

FOOTBALL

UEFA Cup Third round, first leg

SWAROVSKI (0) v LIVERPOOL (0) 2-0

OTHER RESULTS: AEL Athens 2, Torino 2

EUROPEAN CUP: Group B, Dynamo Kyiv 1, Benfica 0

NEVILLE OVERTEN COMBINATION: Chelsea 0, Tottenham 0; West Ham 2, Ipswich 2

CAPITAL LEAGUE: Cambridge United 3, Aldershot 0

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THE TIMES SPORT

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 1991

Ground-sharing agreement with Fulham could be part of compromise as club's dispute with landlord nears settlement

Chelsea likely to stay at Stamford Bridge

BY MATTHEW BOND AND DENNIS SIGNY

THE long-running dispute between Chelsea Football Club and its landlord, the publicly-quoted property company Cabra Estates, could soon be settled by a deal that would secure the future of football at Chelsea's Stamford Bridge ground but would remove Fulham from their Thames-side ground at Craven Cottage.

The growing optimism last night followed a day in which Cabra, which is itself £52 million in debt, threatened Chelsea with eviction and bankruptcy if the club failed to come up with £22.85 million, the price of the 11.7-acre site determined by an independent property expert and apparently binding on both Cabra and Chelsea.

However, with Cabra facing the prospect of having to pay Jimmy Hill's Fulham over £10 million to leave Craven Cottage, a compromise deal is expected to be hammered out which would see Fulham sharing Stamford Bridge with Chelsea.

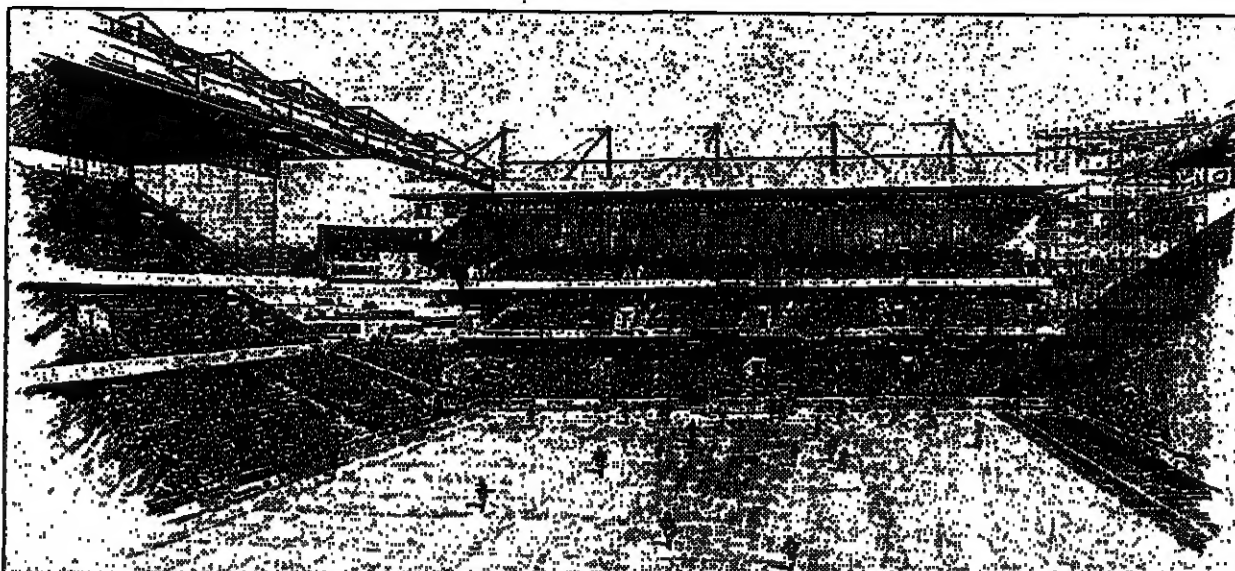
The £22.85 million valuation arrived at by William Wells, senior partner of Chestertons, the property agent, is thought to have come as a

disappointment to both sides. When Cabra took over Marler Estates in 1989, Stamford Bridge had been valued at £40 million with Chelsea still playing there, and at £60 million if the club could be persuaded to leave. Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, has recently expressed a conviction that after the slump in property values, the ground could be worth as little as £6 million.

John Duggan, chairman of Cabra, described Wells's valuation as "a good figure" and expressed confidence that Chelsea would now complete the option they had formally exercised. He said he would not have had the same confidence of the deal being completed had Wells come up with a "macho figure" of £35 million to £40 million.

"This is a figure that is sensible, a good British compromise," Duggan said. But he warned that Cabra would pursue Chelsea "very vigorously" if they now failed to complete the deal within 56 days.

"This is now a perfected property contract and will become a debt to Chelsea in 28 days' time," he added. Even



The Chelsea dream: an artist's impression of the proposed redevelopment of Stamford Bridge, looking towards the Shed and with the existing east stand, which will be retained, on the left

allowing for a 28-day notice period, Duggan said Chelsea would have to complete within 56 days.

Duggan said failure to complete would lead to the club being evicted from the ground. He said that in addition the debt could be pursued to the bankruptcy courts. "If that is what we decide is the best course of

action to pursue our aim, we will do so," he said. "I have never wanted to kick Chelsea out of Stamford Bridge but I don't want any other compromises."

Bates said: "We are delighted that at last we have got a firm figure. Now at last the uncertainty is out of the way. We are confident that this will be resolved in the near future,

although there are other matters to be resolved, including four High Court actions."

"I'm sure, however, that with goodwill on the part of Cabra, these points can be cleared up, with the added fact that Fulham's future will also be secured by moving to Stamford Bridge."

Bates spent the afternoon watching Chelsea's reserves

play Tottenham Hotspur reserves at Stamford Bridge.

Despite the tough public line being taken by Cabra, there are real hopes of a compromise deal being worked out. Elliott Bernard, whose private company controls the Westwood golf club, is understood to be acting as peacebroker between Bates and Duggan, but has no fi-

nanial interest in the deal.

Duggan admitted yesterday that he had had recent negotiations with Bates and said he had struck a compromise deal with Jimmy Hill, which reduced the price Cabra would pay Fulham to quit Craven Cottage from £13 million to £10.25 million. However, he said Fulham would not get their money until Chelsea had paid for Stamford Bridge.

Any compromise deal would be worked out at the level of SB Property, the Cabra subsidiary that owns both Stamford Bridge and Craven Cottage. Having paid under £1.5 million for Stamford Bridge ten years ago, SB faces a huge capital gains tax bill if it sells Stamford Bridge for £22.85 million and still find funds to pay Fulham to leave Craven Cottage.

The key to any compromise is the fact that Cabra owns only 83.5 per cent of SB Property. The biggest of SB's minority shareholders is Bates. If a consortium led by Bates can strike a deal with Cabra for its 83.5 per cent stake, SB would emerge with Stamford Bridge, while Cabra would walk away with Craven Cottage and, no doubt, a few million pounds.

1982: SB Properties takes control of both Chelsea and the ground, leasing Stamford Bridge back to the club for seven years. Under the lease Chelsea can purchase the freehold of Stamford Bridge in the 12 months before it expires.

1984: SB Properties - the original holders of the Chelsea lease before becoming a subsidiary of Marler Estates, which subsequently makes way for Cabra - submit, in October, a planning application for Stamford Bridge which does away with the football pitch.

1987: Unofficial valuation of Stamford Bridge of £108 million, nearly £10 million an acre. Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, unveils redevelopment plans. In March, Marler Estates, already the owners of Fulham's Craven Cottage ground, acquires Queen's Park Rangers. David Bustrode, chairman of Fulham and Marler Estates, says Chelsea would have paid £40 million for Stamford Bridge, a figure disputed by Bates.

1988: In May, Bates restates that Chelsea intend to buy Stamford Bridge before the lease expires. 1989: A planning enquiry approves Chelsea's scheme to build new grandstands, luxury flats, community centre and business premises. SB Properties had permission for a scheme half as dense as this.

1990: In August, Hammer Smith and Fulham council grants Chelsea planning permission to build a new stadium and club offices, a 160-room hotel and luxury flats.

1991: An independent arbitrator, called in to settle the dispute between Chelsea and Cabra on the ground's value, tells Chelsea they can purchase the freehold for £22,850,000 or face a bankruptcy order from the owners.

Cowans moves to Blackburn

BY CHRIS MOORE

GORDON Cowans, the Aston Villa midfielder player, joined Blackburn Rovers in a £200,000 deal last night. The former England international, aged 33, spent 16 years at Villa Park, interrupted by a spell in Italian football with Bari, and made 508 first-team appearances for the club.

Cowans, who has been awarded a testimonial match at Villa Park, will make his debut for Blackburn in the second division match with Middlesbrough at Ewood Park on Saturday.

"The deal was done in three hours flat," Ron Atkinson, the Villa manager, said. "It's a smashing move for Cowans and a smashing signing for Blackburn. They want to be in the top flight next season and are building a team to get them there. I think Gordon could help them do it."

The transfer means that, since arriving at Villa Park in the summer, Atkinson has

been involved in deals totalling £13 million on 20 players.

He has spent £4.5 million and brought in £8.5 million, which includes £5.5 million for David Platt, the England international, who joined Bari in the summer.

Graham Turner, the Wolverhampton Wanderers manager, and the rest of the Molineux managerial team were yesterday granted a stay of execution by the board of directors.

The futures of Turner, his assistant, Garry Pendrey, and the youth team coach, Chris Evans, had been the subject of a board meeting lasting almost five hours. A statement confirmed they would keep their jobs, although it warned that results must continue to improve.

Before the 2-1 win over Grimsby Town in the second division on Tuesday, Wolves had gone 12 League and cup matches without a victory.

Saunders spearheads Liverpool

Swarovski Tirol 0
Liverpool 2

FROM STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
IN INNSBRUCK

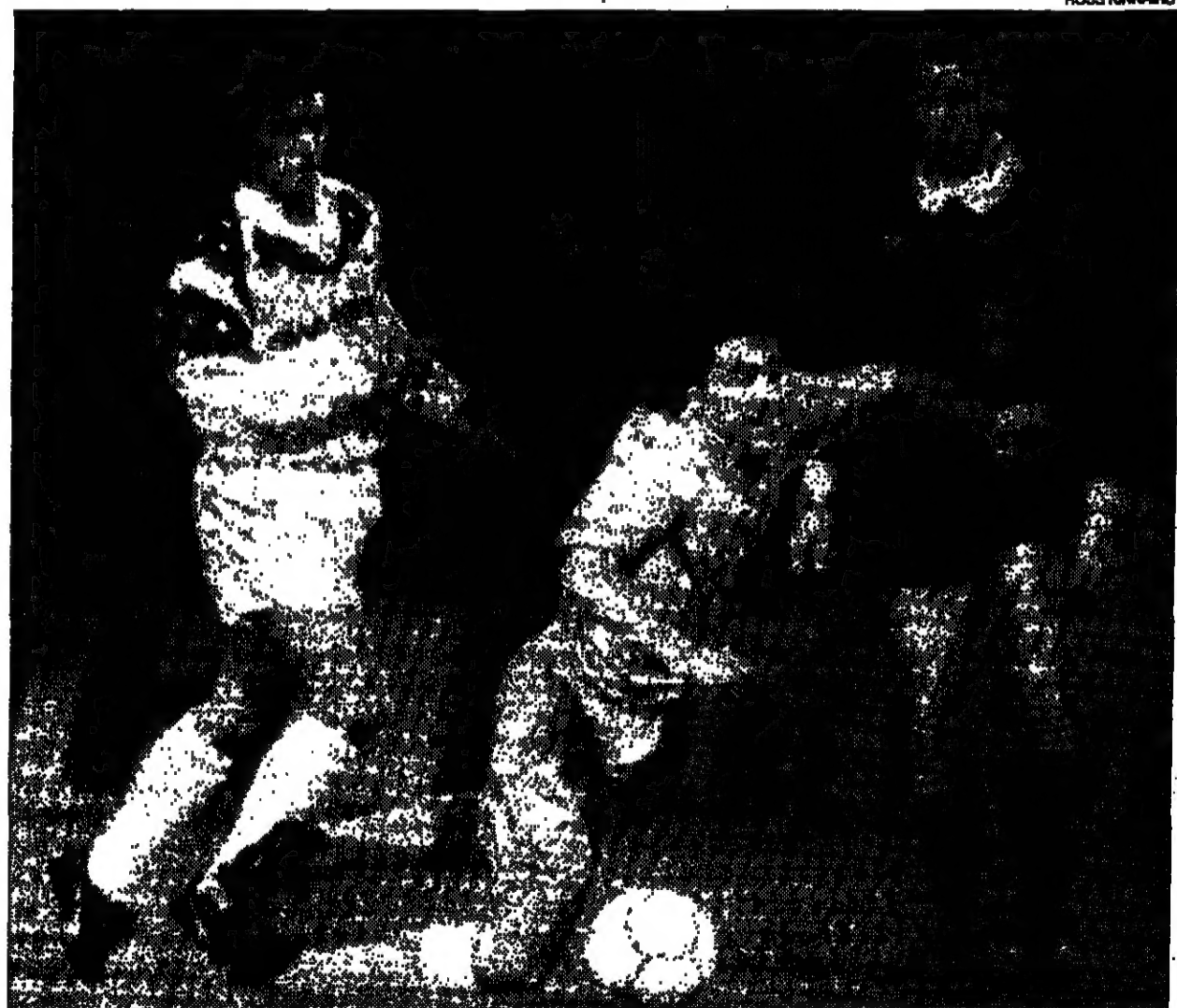
DEAN Saunders, finding his feet again on the European stage, last night scored both of the goals which will surely take Liverpool through to the last eight of the UEFA Cup. On a frosty pitch lying in the shadow of the Austrian Alps, Britain's most expensive player chose the occasion to reaffirm his value.

The scorer of four goals in the first round against Kuusysi Lahti, he led a patchwork team, including inexperienced reserves and recuperating patients, to victory over Swarovski Tirol here in the first leg of the third-round tie. He was assisted ably by McManaman, who spoiled his vibrant contribution by being needlessly booked for falling to retreat ten yards.

Saunders, whose League form has been criticised, justifiably won the individual acclaim but Liverpool, as a whole, recalled memories of the club's past performances abroad. After drawing the sting from their opponents, they struck themselves in a manner which will almost certainly be decisive.

Gorosito carries the typical South American impudence which could yet pose a threat at Anfield in a fortnight. Slight of stature, the 28-year-old Argentinian often gave the ball away but initially he used it to greater effect than anyone. Whenever he was in possession, Liverpool had to be at their most alert.

Although they were unable to restrain the individual with the flowing dark locks, they adequately covered those he released. The sense of defensive authority was provided principally by Wright, though he inevitably lacked sharpness after an absence of more than three months.



Temporarily grounded: Saunders, of Liverpool, is tripped by Gorosito in last night's victory at Innsbruck

Apart from reinforcing the security in the air, a route not often taken by the Austrians other than at set pieces, he put himself in charge of arranging the back line. His presence alone was a source of comfort, especially to Tanner, his less elegant but effective central partner.

As a consequence, Grobbelaar was seldom genuinely exposed. Stretched to the limit, he had to leap to catch one-

handed a back pass overhit by Nicol but Liverpool's goalkeeper was otherwise troubled, before the interval, only by a drive struck by Pacult from an oblique angle on the half-hour.

In the second half, Wright made two important interceptions, by blocking potentially dangerous shots from Hartmann and Pacult, but Liverpool were unhinged only once. They escaped punish-

ment because Westenthaler, freed by Linzmaier, directed his attempt at the chest of Grobbelaar.

Swarovski Tirol, who had eliminated Finnish and Greek opponents in previous rounds, were described by Graeme Souness as capable of "fitting comfortably in the English first division". Managed by Ernst Happel, who led the Netherlands to the World Cup final in 1978,

their organisation was as evident as their skill on the ball.

Champions twice in the last three years, they held Liverpool for almost an hour. Only then did their defence assume the brittle characteristic of their sponsor's product. Swarovski, a local firm, manufactures crystal ornaments and Saunders, in a moment of quick thinking, reduced the Austrian rearguard to rubble. Ablett, chasing an appar-

ent lost cause, won a throw-on the edge of the opposition's area and sought to take it without hesitation. Saunders alone read his intention and held off the challenge of the retreating Wazinger before squeezing the ball through the legs of the unprotected Orszag.

The goal made all the difference. Liverpool, nervous and diffident at the start, were by now swaggering and even Molby, who had watched much of the game pass him by, joined in the fun by laying on the second goal for Saunders a dozen minutes from the end.

SWAROVSKI TIROL: M. Ogris; J. Hartmann, K. Pauer, M. Pichler, R. Pacult, M. Linzmaier, M. Strobl, C. Westenthaler, P. Grobelle, A. Hartung (capt), R. Grobelle.

LIVERPOOL: S. Grobbelaar; S. Hartmann, G. Ablett, S. Nicol, M. Wright, N. Tanner, D. Saunders, M. Mann, S. McManaman, J. Molby, S. McManaman. Referee: E. Fredriksson (Sweden).

Adidas - AEK Athens drew 2-2 against Torino here yesterday in a third round, first leg UEFA Cup match. The Italians are favoured to advance to the fourth round after their return match in two weeks.

AEK went on the attack from the start and managed to take a 1-0 lead in the 22nd minute with a blistering shot from a free-kick by Portuguese forward, Battista. But the Italians levelled in the 33rd minute with a header by Walter Casagrande, the Brazilian, from Martin Vasquez's cross. Three minutes later, the Italians went 2-1 ahead, from a header by Giorgio Bresciani, also from a cross by Vasquez. AEK levelled in the 78th minute through Sabanadzovic, the Yugoslav.

Rookie of year

Golf: Per-Ulrik Johansson, of Sweden, has been voted the European Tour's Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year Award.

What is it that makes you so special?

Please complete the questionnaire below to find out what makes you different from the rest of mankind.

Delete where applicable

- | | |
|--|----------|
| Q Are you immortal? | A Yes/No |
| (If yes, then go to the last question) | |
| Q Are you healthy/unhealthy? | A Yes/No |
| Q Are you young/middle-aged/old? | A Yes/No |
| Q Would you mind being paralysed? | A Yes/No |
| Q Would you miss talking and walking? | A Yes/No |
| Q Does it worry you that this week 2,000 people in Britain will suffer a disease that attacks the brain? | A Yes/No |
| Q Do you think you might be at risk? | A Yes/No |
| Q Did you know that a stroke kills or seriously disables little babies, brothers, teenagers and elderly people DAILY? | A Yes/No |
| Q Did you know that just £15 will pay for an hour of research? | A Yes/No |
| Q Are you going to give money towards research that could save you life? (If you are immortal then perhaps you could consider saving a friend) | A Yes/No |

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Gallacher will apply the lessons of Kiawah

BY MITCHELL PLATT
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

BERNARD Gallacher will today resume his role as Europe's Ryder Cup captain when he is officially reappointed for the match against the United States at The Belfry in September 1993.

Gallacher's election at a meeting of the Ryder Cup committee in London is a formality. He has the full support of players and officials alike.

Even so, Gallacher will be entrusted with much more than winning back the coveted golden chalice which the United States regained two months ago.

He must help negotiate a system to eliminate the possibility of a player becoming a spectator, as was the case

at Kiawah Island. There, Gallacher, as captain, had the unenviable duty of placing the name of one player in an envelope in the event of a member of the opposition being injured.

He chose David Gilford, and Gilford was inconspicuous on being told only minutes before the singles series that his services were not required because Steve Fale, the American who was injured in a road accident earlier in the week, had withdrawn. Gallacher felt as wretched as Gilford. He will not want a repeat of that incident, and his obvious course of action is to negotiate a reserve to eliminate the embarrassment of using the envelope. Tom Watson, the new United States captain, has said there is no need to change. But Gallacher can point to the

introduction of substitutes in other sports and to the importance of the Ryder Cup, which is viewed by both sides as the "fifth major".

The suspicion is that Gallacher could go much further, by agreeing to the American request for there to be more matches. The Americans have long campaigned for five rather than four matches in each of the fourfoursomes and fourball series.

A compromise is the likeliest outcome, because with daylight hours being an important consideration, it would seem most likely that only one of the series could be extended, so producing nine matches on each of the first two days. It would certainly answer the cry for more golf. What is more, Gallacher is in the position to be positive because Europe now has the strength

in depth to answer the American challenge.

Gallacher will also be involved in discussions on the possibility of lengthening the qualifying period for the Johnnie Walker Ryder Cup points table. Ken Schofield,



Gallacher: fully backed

the executive director of the PGA European Tour, favours this beginning from the European Masters in Switzerland at the start of September and closing at the German Open at the end of August next year. In the past, the qualifying period has started in the same year as the matches.

The advantage of starting during this season for next year's match is that qualifying points would be available in tournaments such as the European Open, Lancashire Open, German Masters and Volvo Masters, in which many of the leading players compete. In other words, it would increase the prospect of all the leading players automatically qualifying. This year, Gallacher was compelled to select Nick Faldo as one of his three wild cards.

If such a change was introduced, it is also possible that Gallacher would agree to fall in line with the Americans by reducing the number of selected players from three to two. This would need to be debated by both the organising bodies, although it would seem fair to standardise the situation.

The decision to reinstate Gallacher as captain is the right one. He learned much from Kiawah Island, and will be all the wiser for next year's match. Gallacher had the good sense to admit that he made mistakes during the last match, which the United States won by 14½ points to 13½, and he deserves the chance to emulate Tony Jacklin, his predecessor, by winning at The Belfry.

